

was given on September 6, 1836 by Charles Grimes (son of Felix) and Martha his wife, land consisting of two acres and 51 poles for the sum of \$5.00 to James Wanless, William Moore, John Wanless, James Grimes, John Sharp, Henry Arbogast, and John Waugh, trustees.

On November 20, 1848 in a report by the trustees, Martin Dilley, Washington Moore and Beverly Waugh, ~~they~~ state that the building is completed to the ceiling. That the cost of the church was about \$300. and that \$50. should finish it. In that same year, Preston Moore, Harvey Curry and Moses Moore were appointed trustees to fill vacancies which had occurred. This is a hewn log building, the cracks being daubed with mud. The roof was of shingles.

* Calvin Price says that such churches as Mt. Zion, Hamlin Chapel and New Salem were built as community churches and were used by every one regardless of denomination, and that no thought was given to procuring a deed for them until the Methodist Protestants withdrew from the Methodist church in 1830, then a scramble was made to get them deeded, perhaps so the M.P.'s could not lay claim to them.

* This old church originally had a gallery for the use of the slaves owned by the Dilley and Grimes families of the community, but this gallery was taken out fifty or sixty years ago, and no trace of it now remains.

* Samuel Waugh was one of the original members of old Mt. Zion church, one of the strongholds of its denomination for so many years. Beverly Waugh, son of Samuel, was an estimable man.

he led the Mt. Zion class for 16 years, and yielded the position to the regret of his christian brethren when it became necessary for him to move to the Little Levels. At his death he left an honorable reputation as a gentleman and a christian. The Rev. John Waugh, another son of Samuel, is worthy of remembrance for many reasons. He was a skillful worker in metals, excelling in the manufacturing of hoes and tempering axes. He also taught school and preferred the vocal method. He studiously improved his limited opportunities for mental improvement, and became a well informed, intelligent citizen, and had his own well matured opinions about questions of public interest. He was for many years a prominent member of the Mt. Zion church and a local preacher that seems to have but little regard for what persons might say about his discourse. He had a parable about throwing stones in the dark at certain things, and if there was an outcry he knew that something was hit. { The same one referred to in the old Steverds Book.

& Jacob Waugh and Henry Arbogast were also local Methodist ministers of prominence. It was Lorenzo Waugh, the brother of Jacob, who preached his way across the continent.

* Some of the class leaders after the Civil War were David Grimes, Morgan Grimes, Hanson Dilley and John W. Grimes.

Around 1850 the Moores, Herrings and Currys who had been members of Mt. Zion, built Mount Vernon church on Knappe Creek, and withdrew from Mt. Zion. This church was perhaps built more for convenience, rather than because of any dissatisfaction among the members.

. Also some time in the history of this church, the Wanless, Schrader, and Fertig families of upper thorny creek undertook to

build a church of their own. The logs in this church instead of being hewn were sawed on a saw mill owned by John Wanless, and were notched at the ends so that they fit closely together making it unnecessary to daub the cracks. It is not known just why these people built a church, but it is believed there had been no disagreement in the church, for when for some reason the Thorny Creek church was not completed, and was finally abandoned, the people returned to Mt. Zion where some of their descendants still worship. This log church on Thorny Creek, while not completed, was used for a number of years as a preaching place. John Wanless gave the logs to Jake Shrader and he used them to build his house. They are still to be found in the Shrader house. I could find no deed for this church, but it was built on land belonging to the Wanless family and is now owned by Joe Fertig. It was on the roadside, about one-fourth mile below Thorny Creek school house, and near where Wanless had his grist and saw mill. The place is still called Church Hollow. No one knows when it was built, but some believe before the Civil War.

The Civil War broke out and the people of The Hills, as elsewhere, took sides; the Grimes and others remaining with the Union and the Dilleggs, Shraders and Moores joining the Confederacy. In the year of 1867 when a preacher by the name of Waugh, with some other Confederates, went to Mt. Zion to hold services they found the church locked and the Union men dressed in their blue uniforms stationed at various points around the church lot. They did not try to gain entrance to the church but preached from the steps, and finally withdrew and built Bethel church.

at one time while there was so much contention in the church a man by the name of Sharp shot through the door of the church. This door was replaced by a new one and Morgan Grimes took the old door with the bullet holes to his log cabin and for many years this old door remained a part of his house. It is still to be seen at the home of George Bambrick, a son in-law.

Mount Tabor school house was at one time an outpost of Mount Zion church. There was quite a class of Methodists at this place.

During the pastorate of Rev. Ramsey, the old church was materially repaired. The old shingle roof was replaced by a metal roof, and the old logs were covered over on the outside with a metal siding, some new sill were put in, new windows installed and it was painted on the inside. This metal siding that was put on the outside was painted red in the first place, and remained such until in 1934 when it was painted white.

In 1932, Strickler Hoover bought paint and painted the church again on the inside.

Mt. Zion was at first on the Hunterville circuit, then when the churches divided and Mt. Zion remained with the north while Hunterville and other churches on the circuit went with the south, it was made an appointment on the Frost circuit, and from about 1910 to 1928 it was on the Arbovale circuit, but it has again become an appointment on the Hunterville circuit.

A Ladies Aid was organized in 1934 during the pastorate of Rev. A. B. Lewis, with Juanita Dilley as president. There were fifteen members. During that year this organization

worked very hard to build up the church. the women sponsored suppers, made comforts and just any thing they could find to make money for the church. They paid one-third of the preachers salary, bought paint to paint the outside of the church, the men contributed their time and did the painting, and everything was going along fine until the people began to lose faith in the preacher because they thought he did not walk the straight and narrow path. After a while some of the old and loyal, working members became so disgusted with the whole affair that they began one by one to leave the church and go to neighboring churches. Some of the members refused to carry on the work of the Ladies Aid, and the result of it all was that by 1910 there was not even a Sunday School, whereas in 1884 there had been an enrollment of near 75 in the Sunday School and much interest shown by every one. (During the period 1885 to 1897 feelings were almost as intense as in the reconstruction period following the Civil War). It will be many years before the church will be back to where it was before this disorganization took place, however, Mr. and Mrs. Emerson Newman, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Shrader, and others made an effort to reorganize the church, a Sunday school was organized and a new preacher was sent to take charge of the circuit.

There is being put forth an effort to again unit Mt. Lion and Bethel churches. The preacher has services at Mt. Lion one appointment and at Bethel the next. They have Sunday School at one church one Sunday and at the other the next. However, some of the people have for many years attended both churches, but neither of them want to entirely give up their church and

the arrangement of keeping both churches and alternating the services has worked very well so far. (These churches are about two miles apart).

Some of the most faithful members of this church from 1925 to 1935 were: Oda Gay, Pearl Gay, Myrtle Fertig, Bertha Fertig, Una Fertig, Amos Fertig, George Fertig, Florence Fertig, Mantie Bambrick, John Grimes, Charles K. Moore, Mattie Humes, Pat Houdyshell, Effie Houdyshell, and A. J. Hoover, with Oda Gay, Bertha Fertig and John Grimes as class leaders.

The history of Mt. Zion has been along and stormy one, but in spite of a few major disagreement, this old church has been the scene of many old time revival meetings and many people can look back on it as great place of worship. When the churches were united there was some talk of discontinuing Mt. Zion, some even wanted to tear it down, but some one got more than a hundred signers on a petition to keep the old church as a landmark. It is believed to be the oldest church in the county, that still stands and is still used. There is some talk of removing the metal covering from the outside and restoring it to its original state.

Mrs. Laura Grimes is collecting money to put a new fence around the church lot and surrounding cemetery that is the resting place of so many of the old pioneers of this community.

* church records.
* Prices history.

I lived in this community for six years and know personally the history of the church during that time and learned much of its past history.

* From -Calvin Price, Alice Sharp,
W. A. Dilley, Lizzie Waugh,
G. M. Sharp, Laura Grimes,
Fred Fertig, G. K. Moore
Mattie Bambrick

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Chapter 9 - Section 2 Date Mar. 14, 1941

Research Worker Nelle V. McLaughlin Date Research Taken Mar. 7, 1941

Typist Nelle V. McLaughlin Date Typed Mar. 13, 1941

Source Old records on file in Date Filed
County Clerk's Office.

A report of one of the commissioners appointed to the
Court at the July term of court 1881, to re-visit
the County. J. M. Lightner, Commr.



Chapter 9 - Section 2

Greenbank District

| | | | |
|--------|--|---------------------|-------|
| 1881 - | Population | ----- | 1,902 |
| | Dist. levy for schools 31¢ & 10¢ on the \$100 for building fund | | |
| | Total levy of schools and for building | \$1172.85 378.88 | |
| | Number school houses | | 17 |
| | Number scholars between 6 & 21 yrs | | 490 |
| | ----- | | |
| 1900 - | Number schools | | 26 |
| | Levy of 20¢ for teachers' fund & 13¢ on \$100 for building fund. | | |

Huntersville Dist.

| | | | |
|--------|---|--------------------|-------|
| 1881 - | Population | | 1,302 |
| | Dist. levy for schools 33¢ & for building fund 16¢ on \$100 | | |
| | Total Dist. levy for schools & building fund | \$833.17 402.30 | |
| | Number school houses | | 10 |
| | Number scholars between 6 & 21 yrs. | | 325 |
| | ----- | | |
| 1900 | Number school houses | | 17 |
| | Total levy for teachers' fund 33¢ on \$100 & building fund 20¢. | | |

Edray District

1881 Population ----- 2,070

List. levy for schools 20¢ & 11¢
on the \$100 for building fund.

Total list levy for schools 1108.24
and for building 601.81

Number school houses ----- 16

Number scholars between 5 & 21 ----- 456

1890 Number school houses ----- 20

Levy of 40¢ for teachers' fund &
12¢ for building fund.

Little Levels District

1881 Population ----- 2,004

List. levy for schools 20¢ &
for building fund 8¢ on \$100.

Total list. levy for schools 1020.42
& for building 276.01

Number school houses ----- 14

Number scholars between 5 & 21 yrs. 531

1890 Number school houses ----- 18

List. levy for teachers' fund 20¢
& for building fund 20¢ on \$100.

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Chapter 2-Section 2-b

Date April 3, 1941

Research Worker Helle W. McLaughlin

Date Research Taken Apr. 3

Typist Helle W. McLaughlin

Date Typed Apr. 2, 1941

Source A. A. Sharp
Ernest J. Hite

Date Filed _____



History of the Cove Hill School-
Huntersville District.

The Cove Hill School House is located on the west fork of Knapps Creek, about one mile from Frost. It is built in a little cove on a hill at the foot of Michael Mountain. To the east it faces the Allegheny Mountains.

It is a frame building of the old type, but has served the community as an educational center since its erection in 1893.

Many influential men and women have received all or a part of their education in this little school and have gone out to serve their country. Most notable among them are the Hon. Geo. W. Sharp, former Secretary of State and his twin brother Judge Summers H. Sharp.

As a part of the equipment in the school, there is an old home made teacher's desk, used at the present as a magazine stand. The lid of the desk is removable. On the under side of the lid is written the names of all of the teachers that have taught in this school. The dates are not all written down. The following is an exact copy as found on the lid of the desk:

J. M. Barnett
Mattie Curry
G. L. Anderson
W. B. Sharp
A. F. Rivaly

Pocahontas County

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B. B. Williams - Three terms

Clara H. Jordan - 1903

A. A. Sharp - 1905, 1907

Alice V. McMillion - 1907-08

Alice V. McMillion - 1908-09

Anna B. Connell - 1909-1910

Clara Jordan - 1914-1915

Nannie L. Hill - 1915-1916

Frank Flynn - 1916-17

Mildred Levere - 1917-18

Edith Morrison - 1918-19

Edith Morrison - 1919-20

Anna A. Rexrode - 1920-21

Edith Morrison - 1921-22

May Moore - 1922-23

Edith Morrison - 1923-24

Thelma Newman - 1924-25

W. W. Nively - 1925-26

W. W. Nively - 1926-27

William F. Sharp - 1927-28

W. F. Hill - 1928-29

W. F. Sharp - 1929-30

W. Ernest White - 1930-31

After 1931, the people attended the Front school. It seems that there was no school here from 1910 to 1914. During this time, the school house was used as a dwelling house.

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Chapter 9 - Section 2 - d Date Mar. 14, 1941

Research Worker Belle Y. McLaughlin Date Research Taken Mar. 12, 1941

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Source Minute Books of the Boards of Date Filed _____
Education of the various districts.

Chapter 3 - Section 3 -d

At a meeting of the Board of Education of Union Township (Little Levels District) on July 17, 1866, it was ordered that a school for colored children be established according to law, the enumeration showing that there were over thirty in number. It was to be located on Stumping Creek, in what was called "Irish Town". John F. Harrison, James Harrison, and J. F. Williams, as members of the Board, ordered that a suitable house be procured and necessary arrangements be made for this school.

On Sept. 18, 1873, it was ordered that J. B. Beard be appointed to take in charge all the funds belonging to the colored population of said district and dispose of same in such a manner as he should deem best calculated to advance the educational interests of the colored population of this district, both as to providing houses and teachers for the colored population and, as there was such an amount due them as would be more than necessary for teachers' salaries for three or more years, it was ordered that the said John B. Beard be authorized to use as much of the money as would be necessary for building or renting houses.

Similarly the salaries allowed the colored teachers were less than the white teachers received for in 1873, the Board ordered John B. Beard to employ a teacher for the colored school in the township in his district, a salary not to exceed fifteen dollars.

Near the turn of the century, there were fifty-six colored pupils in the Little Levels District.

The first colored school in the Edray District was in the "brush country," ^{the McDowell School,} but the old records have been lost and the date is uncertain. It was probably not a great while after the Free School System came into effect, *or perhaps as late as 1890.*

In 1901, the Board of Education of Edray District ordered that a school for the colored children of Marlinton and vicinity be established provided a suitable room could be found. In 1917, a new two room building was built for the colored children in Marlinton. The contract was awarded to F. P. King for the sum of \$1495.

In 1907, a new sub-district was established in the "lower brush country" for the benefit of the colored youth of that section of the country. The following committee was appointed to secure a suitable room for holding the school in the term of 1907-08: Fessie Hill, Mrs. A. Wilson, Lewis Decker, J. A. Peters and W. A. Lockmaney.

In 1923, a new one room building was built for the colored people at Brownburg according to the plans and specifications approved by the Department of Free schools.

June, 1884 --- At this date there was one colored school in the Hunterville District. The records do not show where that school was located but mention of it is made in the minutes of the Board of Education of this District. The school must have been on Brown Mountain as there was a negro settlement there at a rather early date.

In 1883-84, the enumeration showed twenty-two negroes between the ages of six and twenty-one in this district. In 1884-87, it showed seventeen. In 1888, the trustees of the ^{colored} Brown Mountain school were ordered by the Board of Education to repair the school building at a cost of not more than fifteen dollars. I. W. Goodwin taught this school in 1898.

The only colored teacher whose name has been mentioned in the records is that of James J. Jones who was employed in 1899 to teach the colored school in the Sunset sub-dist. for a term of four months commencing Dec. 11, 1899.

It seems that the colored population of the county was very scattered. However, whenever there were enough pupils to establish a school, there seems to have been one. In most of the colored settlements, there was a colored school. In the Grassbank District there were no colored schools prior to 1899.

Marlin
Pocahontas

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RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Chapter I - Section 2-6

Date April 3, 1941

Research Worker Helle V. McLaughlin

Date Research Taken April 2

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Date Typed April 3, 1941

Source old mill of Pine Grove
school in the papers belonging
to the teacher, the late John
W. Moore.

Date Filed

Mrs. Ratie Cookman Sharp



Chapter 9 - Section 2 - b

Pine Grove School - Lacey District.

The roll of the Pine Grove School, term beginning Sept. 17, 1872, was found among the papers of the teacher, the late John S. Moore. This school was located on Stony Creek near Onoto. Mrs. Katie Cochran Sharp, who attended her first term of school here in 1872, gave me some of the information.

The pupils attending in 1872 were:

Auldridge, George A. C. and Mary S.

Barlow, John E., Amos, Abel, Wm. A., Silas, Martha, Mary,

Mitchell, Susan, Mary Alice and Wesley

Beverage, Jacob and Susan

Baxter, Samuel

Carter, Alva C., Lillie and Page Lee

Cochran, Katie

Gay, A. R. and Josie

Gilford, John and Amanda D.

Harrison, Rachel

McClure, Mary, S. D., John W., M. C., and Nannie

Moore, John H., Wm. R., Geo. M., Allie V. and Maggie

Smith, Minnie, Addie and Grant

Simmons, R. H., and Warwick

Townsend, Virginia, Callie and Perry

Vanderhan, G. H., Frank and P. J.

The teacher has been gone for many years. Among the

scholars remaining are:

Mrs. Mary Muldridge Carter

Mr. Anderson Barlow

Mrs. Mary Barlow Gay

Mrs. Katie Cochran Sharp

Mr. A. A. Gay

Mr. John Galford

Mrs. Amanda Galford Mays

Mr. John W. McClure

Mr. John E. Moore of Richmond

Mr. J. W. Grant Smith

Mr. Perry Townsend

Mr. G. H. VanLeenan

Other early teachers who taught at this school about this time were: Miss Carrie Stulting, Calvin Stulting, Lemmy Gay, and George Saxter.

This old school house on Stony Creek was built by William Muldridge from Lillpoint about 1869. It was a one room frame building with a wood stove and so very cold that it was almost impossible for the pupils to keep warm. This old building was replaced by a more modern building about 1897. The location for the new building was bought from Mr. P. W. Carter and the contract for the building was let to George E. Moore for the sum of \$767. The Hon. D. L. Barlow, sec of Huntington, was appointed the first teacher in the new building. The old school house was sold at this time. At the present time the pupils are transported to Marlinton by bus and last winter the old school building was torn down.

Marie
Pocahontas

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Chapter 9 - Section 2

Date March 6, 1941

Research Worker

Helle M. Loughlin

Date Research Taken Mar. 3, 4, 5,

Typist

Helle M. Loughlin

Date Typed March 6, 1941

Source Minutes of Board of Education Date Filed

Pocahontas Times

H. W. Brown



Chapter 3 - Section 2 -

First Schools in the Greenbank District under the Free School System.

After the Civil War when the Free School System went into effect, school buildings were erected so as to accommodate the entire community around them. The first buildings in this district were: Academy, Bruffey, Cross Road, Glade Hill, Sulphur Spring and Kerr.

The Bruffey building was of logs erected on the lands of William Bruffey. The first teachers were: Franklin Arbogast, Amanda Butcher, Squire L. Brown, and Taylor Gillispie. In the year 1873 - 74, while school was in progress with Franklin Arbogast, teacher, the building burned down one night and in order to finish the term, the school was moved to an old store building, which stood on the location of Alice Kessler's broom shop.

In 1874, the Board of Education composed of Dr. J. F. Mooney, Pres., Adam Arbogast, G. W. Siple, J. F. Patterson and C. C. Burner, members, with Stewart Wooddell, Sec., ordered that a new building be erected on the site. The contract was awarded to Robert J. Brown, who with the help of E. M. Brown, built the new Bruffey school house in 1874. The teachers were: Franklin Arbogast, C. C. Arbogast, Amos Gillispie, Alice Arbogast up to the year 1884. Then B. F. S. Wooddell taught two terms, Mary Brown, two terms, Julia Burner, Bertie Beard and Forrest Loushin in 1889. Mary Brown,

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George Sharp, Alma Clark, B. F. M. Wooddell, Brown Verner, B. B. Williams, and this brings us up to 1907. The board now ordered a new building to be erected on the same lot, and the contract was awarded to C. L. Crndorf for the sum of \$300. The first teacher employed in the new Bruffey building No. 3 was George Straley, from Jackson County. This building was supplanted by the High School in 1917 and was sold to Uriah Levenson, Jr. for the sum of \$50. for a tenant house; the old Bruffey building was sold to E. M. Arbogast for the sum of \$35.

The Sulphur Spring School House which was a log building situated on the Duncan Run on the land that was formerly owned by Samuel McCalpin, had been unfit for school purposes and the Board of Education ordered that a new building be erected on the county road which was on the lands of J. W. Wiley and the contract was let to C. A. Yeager. The house was built by Patrick Hamilton in 1884; and was called Pine Grove in the place of Sulphur Spring.

The old Pine Grove building was used as a community center for preaching, Sunday school and singing for a period of fifteen years, until the erection of the Arborvale Church. At one time when a protracted meeting was in progress and the school house was packed, hardly standing room, some folks began to shout and jump around. About that time the floor cracked in and the stove, fire and all tumbled over in the floor. Excitement prevailed in the schoolroom

about that time, and the meeting was broken up for the night. The floor was repaired the next day by Miram Wooddell and the meeting continued. In 1929, the new Pine Grove building was erected, which is the latest style in school architecture and is an approved plan of the West Virginia School Board. The contract was awarded to D. D. Woods.

There was no building done in the school year beginning July, 1935, owing to the depression of business and general failure of crops among the people.

On July 1, 1936 at a regular meeting of the Board of Education, at their office in the old brick academy at Greenbank, it was ordered that twenty schools be taught in Greenbank District for the year. At this time the school patrons of the Deer Creek and Hospital Run neighborhood appeared before the Board, asking that a schoolhouse be built in the lower Flat or near Hospital Run and at the same meeting the citizens of Rosin Run neighborhood petitioned the board to build them a schoolhouse on Rosin Run.

The Board then ordered that two school houses be built, one on Rosin Run and one between S. B. Hannah's and H. M. Arbogast's who lived near the forks of the road near where the town of Arborsvale now stands. On July 24, 1936 the contracts were let to Robert J. Brown. As a rule when a community is planning for a church or a school house, it is hard to satisfy everyone with a location, some want one place and some another, and such was the case in locating a site for the lower Flat school house. After much discussion,

Jocohontas County

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the board and patrons agreed upon a location and the building was erected in the fall of 1886, with W. J. Brown, contractor and L. M. Brown and Patrick Hamilton, carpenters. It was named Hospital Run by the Board because of the little stream that flows through Arborvale and on to Deer Creek. Since the name didn't appeal to some of the citizens, it was changed to "Hannah School" after the first year. After the second year, at the request of S. B. Hannah, the name was changed to Mosey Flat, in honor of the pioneer Moses Houchin who formerly owned the land. The first teacher^{was} Franklin Arbogast, of whom it has been said that when he taught school he was "boss". While the school was in progress, a man by the name of Monday was employed to cut wood on the school grounds. In cutting down a large white oak tree, which leaned slightly towards the school house, Mr. Arbogast discovered the danger just in time to get the children out and lined up to see it fall. One corner of the building and the roof were badly damaged. It was repaired by Robert L. Brown, but always stood a little crooked afterwards. The names of the teachers as they were written on the door were as follows: Franklin Arbogast, Lou Evener, Annie Mays, Willis Gibson, Tom McCoy, Kate Kerr, Mary Brown, F. D. Arbogast, Bertie Ward, Mary Miller, F. D. Arbogast, F. D. Arbogast, Mary Brown, Georgia Carter, Bertie Ward, Bertie Carter, Samuels Sharp, Edna Ballard. In the year of 1903, the board composed of J. L. Hall, President, W. J. Brown, L. M. Curry,

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members, with J. H. Curry, Secy., ordered that the Mosey Flat school house be removed to Arbovale and the contract was awarded to H. W. Brown, who with the help of Sherman Sutton, tore down the building which was hauled to Arbovale by Porter Kerr with two large mules, at two loads. The first teacher was Lillian Abbott in 1903.

The old building answered the purpose very well for six or seven years until the town began to grow and flourish and get so large that it could not accomodate the pupils and a much larger building was erected by L. O. Woods and was located in the year 1910. The old Mosey Flat building was sold to James Wilcox who employed Porter Kerr to move it to the top of Hartman Hill where it was used for a dwelling house for several years. Some of the very best schools were taught in the Mosey Flat school house and some of its students have reached the highest degree of citizenship. With all vocations of life manifested as the consequence of persistent effort exercised by the students, should be a compliment to the ability of the teachers.

The Arbovale school building was supplanted by the High School; and in the year 1931, the Board employed J. H. Wilcox to move the school building to the High School lot where it was used for an agricultural hall, manual training shop and school room.

The Arbovale school building was a log building and the original purpose of the building was to serve as a school house. The building was located on the land that formerly belonged to the Arbovale family.

members, with J. H. Curry, Secy., ordered that the Mosey Flat school house be removed to Arbervale and the contract was awarded to H. W. Brown, who with the help of Sherman Sutton, tore down the building which was hauled to Arbervale by Porter Kerr with two large mules, at two loads. The first teacher was Lillian Abbott in 1903.

The old building answered the purpose very well for six or seven years until the town began to grow and flourish and get so large that it could not accomodate the pupils and a much larger building was erected by L. O. Woods and Wm. Walcomb in the year 1910. The old Mosey Flat building was sold to James Wilfong who employed Porter Kerr to move it to the top of Hartman Hill where it was used for a dwelling house for several years. Some of the very best schools were taught in the Mosey Flat school house and some of its students have reached the highest degree of citizenship. With all vocations of life manifested as the consequence of persistent effort exercised by the students, should be a compliment to the ability of the teachers.

The Arbervale school building was supplanted by the High School; and in the year 1931, the Board employed S. L. Elliott to have the school building to the High School lot where it was used for an agricultural hall, manual training shop and school room.

The second school building was a log building and the first school system came into being on the land that formerly belonged

to the pioneer warwicks. It received its name from the fact that the old pioneer trails or roads from the Jacob Warwick Ft. at Dunmore, to Wm. Warwick Ft. at the forks of Deer Creek and the trails from the pioneers on the headwaters of Henches Run in the Mill neighborhood leading to the settlement on Deer Creek, crossed at this point. Perhaps the first teacher was Charles Conrad; other teachers were: John A. Warwick, W. H. Hull, W. R. Sutton, Lucy Clark, and Franklin Arbogast. The old building burned down in the year 1899, and the Board ordered a new building to be erected. The Board, being unable to agree upon the site, submitted to the decision of the County Supt., James Woods Warwick, who located the site on the lands of E. W. Curry. The building was erected by C. M. Acord and J. L. Emdson and was called the Curry school thereafter. In 1929 the Board employed S. H. Elliott to remodel the building to a modern type.

In the year 1903, the Slaven school house was erected on the road leading from Greenbank crossing the Little Mountain to Cassella. This building was built at the foot of the Mountain on the lands of Warwick Slavens. It was built by Henry Kessler. This building was dispensed with about 1916.

In 1902 the neighborhood had grown away from the old Glade Hill school house and the Board made an order to build a new building on the Thorny branch east of the Glade Hill. The contract was awarded to William Akers, and built on the

In 1910, when the Wesley Chapel school house was built by J. M. Taylor, the Thorny branch school house was sold and moved to the county road where it was used for a dwelling.

In 1908, a school building was erected in the Hills on the lands of P. D. Oliver and called Gum Spring. This building was dispensed with in 1926.

In 1902 the North Fork school house was built. The contract was awarded to C. M. Accord. In 1929 the old building was remodeled by R. W. Brown.

In 1898 the Buffalo Mt. school house was erected, C. M. Accord, contractor. This school has given more graduates to the high school in proportion to its enumeration than any school in the District.

The new Oak Grove school building was erected in 1913 on the lands of J. B. Sutton to whom the contract was let. The old Oak Grove school having served the neighborhood for a period of about twenty-seven years; but the settlement had grown away, so a new school was erected in the center of the community. The old building served as a community center for a number of years until the erection of Wesley Chapel Church.

The Oak Hill school was erected in 1910 on the Buffalo Mountain road on the lands of Samuel Sharp.

In 1908 a new building was erected on the lot of the old Oak Hill school house. The old school has the honor of producing the community's most distinguished and beloved

youths, Lieutenant Robert D. Kerr, who received his free school training at this school, with the exception of one term at Rosey Flat school under the instruction of Mr. P. D. Arbogast and one session at the academy at Greenbank under the instruction of Prof. Arbuckle. Robert Kerr graduated with distinction from West Point in 1898, being assigned to the engineers branch of the service in the Spanish-American war. He was ordered to the Philippines and died on board a troop ship, in August 1898, and was buried in the Pacific Ocean.

Information: Records of the Sec. of Board of Education.
H. W. Brown

Nelle V. McLaughlin

Pocahontas

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

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Research Worker Nelle Y. McLaughlin Date Research Taken May 24, 1941
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Chapter 9 - Section 2

Pleasant Valley School

Pleasant Valley School is located in the Valley of Hills Creek about one and one half miles from Hills Creek Falls. This is a noted trout stream and a very beautiful scenic spot.

The Pleasant Valley school house was built in the year of 1883 by J. O. Hill. It is a log building - the only log school house in use in Pocahontas County. The original shingle roof remained on the building for forty years and was then replaced by a tin roof. The inside of the building is plastered around the walls and the ceiling is ceiled. There are shutters on the windows.

It was first named Eagle School, and then the name was changed to Pleasant Valley by J. W. Hill.

The first teacher was Mr. Moffett Morrison, followed by:

Bob Henry

J. B. Grimes

Margaret Eagle

Charlie Anderson

Edward Eagle

T. A. Bruffey

A. W. Hill

The school was closed from 1901-1906 because of the small attendance. The teachers who next taught were:

Miss Nannie Hill

Josephine McNulty

Virginia E. Anderson

A. W. Hill
Ruth Curry
Ethel Beard
Lena Stamper
Lula Hill Wilbans
Marguerite Jack
Betsy Vaughn
Madeline McNeill
Annas Cole

Some of these teachers taught more than one term. I
am unable to find the exact dates that they taught.

The first pupils who attended this school in 1893 are:

Margaret Eagle

Ruth Eagle

Mollie Eagle

Edward Eagle

John Eagle

A. W. Hill

Ida Hill

Lannie Spitzer

Joanna Spitzer

George Dean

Samuel Dean

Joe Dean

Nettie Dean

Susie Casebolt

Fannie Casebolt

Thomas Casebolt

Nettie Henry

Elza McMillion

Several of these first students in the Pleasant
Valley school afterwards became teachers.

Chapter 9 - Section 3

Huntersville Dist.

1900-1933

1900-01 - 17 schools to be taught in the Edray Dist.

Teachers' salaries: Grade No. 1 - \$25.00

" " 2 - 22.00

" " 3 - 18.00

Term of school to be five months.

Levy: Teachers' Fund 32 cents on the \$100 valuation

Building Fund 20 " " " " "

1901-02

Salaries raised to: Grade No. 1 - \$30.00

" " 2 - 25.00

" " 3 - 21.00

Levy: 35 cents for Teachers' Fund

20 cents for Building Fund.

July 1903 - School term 5 months-

Nineteen teachers in the district.

Salaries same as 1901.

Levy - 50 cents for Teachers' Fund.

28 cents for Building Fund.

Teachers attending Institute paid \$1.50 per day for each day attended.

July 1904 -

Levy: 65 cents for Teachers' Fund

20 cents for Building Fund

Board ordered that no shows of any character be held in any school house or on any school lot in the district.

Pocahontas County

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reduced to \$75 per month, thus enabling the Board to employ an assistant teacher.

1908 - Levy - 25 cents for Teachers' Fund
12½ cents for Building Fund

1909 - Colored school ordered built in or near Frost.

1910 - 18 schools to be taught
19 teachers to be employed

Six months school term -

| | | |
|------------|---------------|----------|
| Salaries - | Grade No. 1 - | \$ 45.00 |
| | " " 2 - | 40.00 |
| | " " 3 - | 32.50 |

Levy: 25 cents for Teachers' Fund
12½ cents for Building Fund.

New two story building to be built at Frost.

1911 - The Board ordered that such additional branches be taught in the Huntersville School as are taught in the first year high schools of West Virginia, as prescribed by the State. Prof. Silas Walker was appointed principal of this school at a salary of \$75.00 per month. Pupils attending school in Huntersville who are not permanent residents of Huntersville district, required to pay \$2 per month tuition. The contract for the Frost school house was let to O. E. McKeever and Jas. A. Reed for the sum of \$1579.

1913 - Teachers salaries:

| | | |
|-------------|-----|----------|
| Grade No. 1 | --- | \$ 50.00 |
| " " 2 | --- | 42.50 |
| " " 3 | --- | 30.00 |

Levy: Building fund 12½ cents

Teachers' fund 25 cents

1914 --- After the levy was made up, so many of the teachers received First grade certificates that there would have been a deficit of \$450., so the school term was cut short two weeks, making five and one-half months.

The one year high school course was taken out of the Huntersville Graded school.

1915 ---

Schools to be taught six months

20 schools to be taught

22 teachers to be hired

Salaries decided upon:

Grade No. 1 -- \$50.00

" " 2 -- 40.00

" " 3 -- 30.00

Two two-room graded schools in the district, one at Huntersville and one at Minnehaha Springs.

April 1916 --- A new two-room school building to be built at Minnehaha Springs by W. L. Herold, contractor, for the sum of \$1950.

1918 --- Twenty one schools to be taught and twenty-one teachers to be employed.

Salaries decided upon:

Grade No. 1 --- \$60.00

" " 2 --- 50.00

" " 3 --- 40.00

Term of school to be six months.

Levy:

27 cents for Teachers' fund
12 cents for Building fund.

July 7, 1919 --- At a meeting of the Board of Education of
 Huntersville District, it was decided that the Board should
 have control of the schools of the district and employ all
 of the teachers for the ensuing year.

Salaries:

| | | |
|-------------|-------|---------|
| Grade No. 1 | --- | \$75.00 |
| " " | 2 --- | 60.00 |
| " " | 3 --- | 45.00 |

Levy: 8 cents for maintenance
 14 cents for new building fund
 25 cents for teachers' fund

During the school year of 1919-20, the schools were
 closed for a few weeks on account of influenza. The Board
 allowed pay to the teachers for half of the time lost.

1920, July -- Twenty schools in the district

Twenty-one teachers to be employed

Salaries: Grade No. 1 -- \$85.00
 " " 2 -- 70.00
 " " 3 55.00

School term six and one-half months.

1921 -- Browns Creek school consolidated with Huntersville
 school and Mr. Walter Grimes employed to convey children from
 Browns Creek to Huntersville school for \$50 per month.

Bethel, Mt. Zion and Thorny Creek schools consolidated
 into one school to be taught at Mt. Zion school house.

Pupils who lived more than two miles from school to be con-
 veyed.

1923. Minimum term 8 months as fixed by law
 Minimum salaries as fixed by law

Pocahontas County

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17 schools to be run and 20 teachers to be employed.

New addition of one room built to Frost Graded school building by W. L. Herold for \$2538.50.

Salaries of teachers remained the same, governed by law, up to 1933.

Many schools were consolidated and pupils transported, as I shall show by later tables.

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

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Source Pocahontas Times - 1940

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Article by Calvin W. Price



Chapter 9 - Section 3

From Pocahontas Times - 1940 - by Calvin W. Price.

On Tuesday Morning, September 3, the free schools will open for business in West Virginia. The exceptions will be in certain counties where infantile paralysis has been a scourge this summer. As near as I can figure out, the per capita cost to the State in furnishing educational opportunities to the children of Pocahontas County is around \$60 a year; that is about 30 cents a school day per child. These figures are based on a school enrollment of 4,000 and an annual expenditure of \$240,000. I know these figures are only approximately right.

Take these figures at face value and do not dig into them too deeply. I know some of the money went for building and buses, the cost of which an expert accountant would treat as capital investment, the charge off to be spread over a period of years. All this is just a bit too fine calculating for my rule of thumb way figuring.

The point is the State is spending thirty cents a day for the schooling of a youngster, whether he is there or not. Another thing the basis of State aid to the county is not now figured from the number of children of school age, or school enrollment, but upon the attendance records.

Whether the youngster takes advantage of his opportunities and makes of the thirty cents a good investment or total loss, is largely a personal matter with the pupil himself, and the rest of us can do little about it, other than fulfill our

part of the responsibility of backing the principle of public education in general and upholding the teachers in particular. Thus is created a healthy, enlightened public sentiment for school culture, to have decided effect in helping the children of families who need it most. While I am for the law which makes attendance at school compulsory, an effect of this law is neglect on the part of the general public to do its part to create a general community school spirit. Too often this results in a child being sent to school merely because the law says he must. Such a child is liable to be a misery to himself, a pest to his teacher, and a hindrance to his fellows, who have some idea, from proper home influences, what all this school business is about anyway. All this waste of time, opportunity and money is bad enough surely, but these are mere transitory things, when preparation for life and eternity is in the balance.

Some people take a sour view of our system of public education. Of course, I am not satisfied with it, by any manner or means. However, the progress made in the last hundred years is a good earnest the future will see greater and better accomplishments.

The complaint is that too much emphasis is placed on "culture", on "social science" and other ephemeral phases of education and not enough on the training of the hands. That the years to come will see not less "cultural" but an additional real training in manual arts is assured by educators the country over. These leaders in their field have realized for

years how our school system has been falling short of the mark through failure to supply technical instruction along book learning. These men and women have been helpless in the face of the public opinion unwilling to tax for the things the educators saw so clearly the school system needed to be revamped for.

With the return of prosperity and the awakening of the necessity of national defense preparation, the country finds itself long on stenographers and short on mechanics.

In the face of the present situation, the school system is fretfully blamed. Surely it should have been different, and it surely would have been different had the school people been allowed the money to have made the additions they so clearly saw and mourned over because the public was not sufficiently enlightened to loose the purse strings to bring it about. It is an old saying that what the seers are seeing today, the talkers will be talking ten years from now and the doers will be doing twenty years from now.

I have been told that there is an ancient proverb of the Hebrew people to the effect that he who neglects to teach his son a trade, teaches him to steal. So, I expect in time to come, our public schools will make manual training in the usual arts compulsory, along with book learning. I expect, too, it will mean more than the present expenditure of thirty cents a day per pupil to bring this good time about.

I need to hear complaints over the school tax burden, and I will admit it was a bit heavy and hard to bear. Even when school taxes were at the highest point, just before the voting of the levy limit amendment and the passage of the

consumer's sale tax, I had learned not to complain. I had counted up what the free schools had meant in dollars and cents in my household. My own children had thirty-two years in the grades at public expense. This saved me, at fair estimate, \$6200. They had sixteen years in high school, saving me \$8,000. In that period of years, I doubt if my whole bill for direct taxes to state, county, district and town amounted to half the amount free public instruction saved me. Of course I know I paid school taxes before the children went to school; I paid taxes after they were through college and out on their own; I still pay taxes and I hope to continue paying taxes for a long time yet to come. However, my annual school tax now, direct and indirect, represents very low rate of interest on the sum, whatever it was, the free schools saved me.

In launching the great experiment which is now America, the founding fathers realized that only an educated people could govern themselves. Some held it was the function of the federal government; others held that it was the responsibility of the sovereign states to school the children. They floundered around, and finally the matter of popular education devolved upon the weakest unit of government, the magisterial district, and that too on a voluntary basis. I can easily recall the biannual vote on the question of whether a levy for schools should be laid or no. I remember, too, one election when the people were so busy here and there over some now long dead and forgotten issue and so enthusiastic in their support or opposition to some now long dead and forgotten stuffed

shirts, too many of them forgot to vote for schools. Then, as now, we had a never say die ultra conservative element who did remember to vote against schools. In one district of Rockingham County they voted the levy down. The fiscal year did not begin until the first of the next July, so there was plenty of time to call a special election to save the schools.

Public education early took hold in the New England States. Poor as the country was in natural resources, these smart people realized that in order to lay tribute upon and live off the rest of the country, they must develop the greatest of all natural resources, the common people. You know the story of the wise old Yankee saying the place of ascendancy and power of Massachusetts was secure as long as West Virginia with all its vast wealth of fertile soil, coal, oil, gas, and timber, was content to give its future citizens the beggar's portion of a four months school term. By the way, this same New England State is giving manual training in its free schools, and not feeling about it either.

While I think of it, there is a new to me New England story going the rounds. A well to do man from the Corn Belt stopped his car to inquire of a native how anybody could possibly make a living in such a poor rocky country. The old boy replied that so long as Iowa was willing to pay eight per cent on second mortgages old New Hampshire would make out very well, thank you!

Of course, the free school system is socialism. Some

prefer to call it paternalism. Whether one or the other or both, it is paternalism or socialism of the right sort.

I go a bit farther than to maintain it is the State's bounden duty to give every child opportunity for book learning to at least the twelfth grade. Along with the book learning should go training in the manual arts. Further, it is right for the State to train the mind and the hand, in supplying teachers, why not go the second step and supply the implements to work with - free text books, if you please.

Some years ago there was a quick ground change ordered in the text books. Whether right or wrong, is beside the point. A neighbor was raising a large family and supported them by laboring on public works. He did not have the twenty dollars required to buy the books, and it was a cash transaction. I put up the money and it took the man several months to pay me back. I imagined I could notice the children appeared more undernourished than usual during the time the neighbor took more than ten per cent of his wages to pay the debt. Those children made good men and women. Incidentally, I backed another man for a less amount of books, and it is still back. While his children had the same advantages in the same school, they did not turn out so well as men and women.

Now the first man had come up in reconstruction times when the State did not do much for its future citizens in the way of educational opportunities. Three months of school, such as it was, did not fit him for better jobs. When public works did come to the community, his boss was a younger man, the product of the good schools in a northern state.

Well, if it is all right to train the mind and hand and supply the implements required, the next logical step is to see that the body of the scholar is properly nourished with at least one good hot meal a day. Teachers have often told me, it was love's labor lost to attempt to interest a hungry, undernourished child.

The depression showed the absolute need of the hot lunch in schools, and from now on I expect it will be the regular course.

From the very beginning our federal government has been willing to enter the educational field, and we might have been better off, if the states had been willing to let the central government shoulder the responsibility. Of recent years, the army and the navy have developed a system of manual training courses for the enlisted men. However if the federal government ever does get into the school business regular, it is my guess the National Youth Administration and the CCC are the entering wedges and I am for it. I cannot imagine where West Virginia could now lay hands on the money to do by the hand what she is attempting for the head, yet the ancient Hebrew proverb says he who neglects to teach his son a trade, teaches him to steal. I will cost more than thirty cents a day to do it, but such investments will pay big dividends.

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Packhouses

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Education of Greenbank dist.

Chapter 9 - Section 3

Greenbank District.

1900 - 1933

July 2, 1900

Teachers salaries for the year to be:

Certificate - Grade No. 1 -- \$25.00

" " 2 -- 22.00

" " 3 -- 18.00

Levy: 20 cents on the \$100 valuation for Teachers' Fund

13 cents on the \$100 valuation for Building Fund

Ordered that 26 Terrestrial 8 in. globes be bought from the Standard School Furnishing Company of Chicago for the schools of the district.

July 1, 1901-

Levy: 32 cents for Teachers' Fund

15 " " Building "

Salaries raised to - Grade No. 1 -- \$30.00

" " 2 -- 25.00

" " 3 -- 18.00

1903 -- Levy: 40 cents for Teachers' Fund
20 " " Building "

Board ordered that the schools take up at half past eight o'clock in winter and eight in summer and continue until four.

1903 - Salaries raised to: Grade No. 1 -- \$40.00

" " 2 -- 35.00

" " 3 -- 25.00

Levy of 20 cents for Teachers' Fund

July 1907 - Schools of the district to be run six months.

| | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|---------|
| Teachers salaries raised to: | Grade No. 1 -- | \$50.00 |
| | " " 2 -- | 40.00 |
| | " " 3 -- | 30.00 |

Levy of: 15 cents for Teachers' Fund

14 cents for Building Fund.

July 5, 1909 - Ordered that there be fifty-two teachers employed in the district for the coming year.

Salaries:

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Principals of Graded schools -- | \$ 75.00 |
| Primary Grade No. 1 ----- | 50.00 |
| " 2 ----- | 40.00 |
| " 3 ----- | 30.00 |

July 1913 - School term to be six months. Salaries of teachers to be same as 1909.

Levy: 12½ cents for Building Fund

25 cents for Teachers' "

1914 - New four room building built at Cass. Old building sold to the Spruce Lumber Company for \$1000.

1915, April 10 --

Board ordered high school established in the Greenbank District to be located between Arborvale and Greenbank.

Expenses of establishing said school estimated:

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Cost of site ----- | \$ 400.00 |
| " " building ----- | 25,000.00 |
| " " furniture ----- | 1,200.00 |
| " " books and apparatus -- | 800.00 |

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| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Expenses of supporting school --- | \$ 2,100.00 |
| Total ---- | 29,500.00 |

It was decided by the Board to establish this high school but the question of authorizing the establishment of such a high school would be put to the voters of the district on May 22, 1915. Also the question of whether or not the Board was to lay a levy of 20 cents on all taxable property for this purpose.

The returns from the election showed 422 votes cast for the District High School and 372 against. Also 427 votes for the levy and 369 against.

On May 2, 1916, R. W. Brown, surveyor, was employed to run out the lot for the high school, about four acres on the land of Mrs. N. J. Moxmau between Arborvale and Greenbank.

On July 16, 1916, the contract for the high school building was awarded to Ward Bros. for the sum of \$20,752.00 to be completed on or before Sept. 10, 1917.

August 1916 -

Levy: 15 cents for Building Fund
30 cents for Teachers' Fund

High school levy of 20 cents.

Charles W. Bates submitted the plans and specifications for the high school building. The heating system was installed in the high school by the Stanton Heating Company for the sum of \$2600.00.

July 1917- Schools in the district to be taught six months. Greenbank High School to be taught nine months. Teachers' salaries as follows:

Pocahontas County

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Grade No. 1 -- \$ 50.00

" " 2 -- 40.00

" " 3 -- 30.00

High school principal ----- \$ 1300.00

One assistant ----- 85.00 per mo.

Principals of graded schools ---- 75.00 per mo.

8th grade in high school ----- 60.00 per mo.

In 1918, the salaries of teachers were again raised:

Grade No. 1 -- \$ 60.00

" " 2 -- 50.00

" " 3 -- 40.00

Principals of graded schools --- \$ 75.00 per mo.

" " high school --- 1300.00

First assistant ----- 100.00 per mo.

Second assistant ----- 90.00 " "

Levy: 15 cents for Building fund

30 cents for Teachers' fund

High School

4 cents for Building Fund

6 cents for teachers "

In 1920, the school term was lengthened to six and one half months.. There were fifty-five schools to be taught.

Salaries set by the State :

Grade No. 1 -- \$ 85.00

" " 2 -- 65.00

" " 3 -- 50.00

One half of the expense of transporting pupils from

Cass to Greenbank High School paid by the Board.

On Sept. 1, 1921, the Board contracted with J. A. Belcher and F. C. Arbogast to transport all pupils from Cass to the High school at Greenbank and also all scholars that attend grades outside the two mile limit from said high school, for 40 cents per pupil per day. This amount to be paid all the time that the pupil loses from school on account of sickness. However, in case pupil should discontinue school, he shall be counted off the transportation list.

1922 - The Board furnished the required equipment and repaired the building in order to bring the Greenbank High School up to the standard of a First Class high school.

1923 - Sixty schools in the district besides high school. Eight months term. Minimum basic salary.

1924 - Seventy schools in district. 8 months or less term for the grades. High school nine months.

Levy:

Graded Schools

15 cents for maintenance
42 cents for teachers

High school

22 cents for maintenance
30 cents for teachers

New Building Fund

20 cents for new building and improvement purposes.

Cass sub-district for extra month of school

1 cent for maintenance

4 cents for teachers fund

1925;

1925 - 58 rural schools

2 Junior High schools

1 High school

In 1925, the contract for an annex to the Greenbank High School building to be used for graded school purposes was let to A. G. Killingsworth for the sum of \$32,550.00. The contract for the heating and ventilating system was let to the Stanton Heater Company for \$3800.

All graded schools to be run eight months. A special levy of 5 cents laid on all taxable property in the town of Cass to extend school term in Cass to nine months.

1927:

Levy: 40 cents for Teachers' Fund
15 cents for maintenance
17 cents additional to make up deficiency in the elementary teachers' fund.

21 cents for High S. Maintenance

36 " " " " Teachers' purposes

14 " " " " New Building Fund

5 cents for Cass Corp. sub-district

Contracts for transportation of pupils to and from Greenbank High school let as follows:

Durbin Route - S. T. Tracy - \$13.70

Cass " W. A. Lightner - 9.25

Dunmore " Winfred McElwee - 6.00

Wesley Chapel - Fred Wooddell - 4.00

Salaries of teachers fixed according to legal minimum schedule and it is estimated that the total cost of the

Pocahontas County

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Certificates be employed for the one room, consolidated and graded schools: and eight high school teachers.

June 1932 - It was ordered that the Junior High School at Cass and Durbin be discontinued for the coming year 1932-33, and pupils be transported to Greenbank.

From: Minutes of Board of Education of Greenbank Dist.

West Virginia Writers' Project
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Donahoe
ch 9

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Education of L. L. Dist from
1836 - 1849



Chapter 9 - Section 3 - d

At a meeting of the Board of Education of Union Township (Little Levels District) at Abraham Hill's on February 17, 1886, there were present: John B. Kinnison, James Morrison and R. P. Williams, School Comrs. Peter Hill, Clerk of the Board.

The report from the enumeration was as follows: males

(white) 146; Females (white) 145; Total 293

Males (colored) 29; Females (colored) 18; Total 47

Total enumeration in the District - 340

It was ordered that the District be divided into six divisions. The school house sites for each division were to be as follows:

Division No. 1 - At or near fork of the road at Stephen Hole Run.

Division No. 2 - At Hillsborough

Division No. 3 - At or near the James Lamiston house on the land of George Lamiston.

Division No. 4 - At or near the Deep church.

Division No. 5 - At or near the turn of the road near Geo. Kellison's house.

Division No. 6 - At the lower end of the Bumgarner field on Mill Creek.

On account of the progress of the times and the scarcity of money, the Board voted to rent school houses wherever they could and where this could not be done, they were to build houses of good structure and sufficient dimensions to meet the wants of the Division.

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It was ordered at this meeting that Jno. B. Kinnison and R. P. Williams be appointed on the part of the Board to confer with the Trustees of the Academy and to obtain transference of said property to the Board of Education.

On May 26, 1866, the Board resolved that there should be levied on all taxable property the sum of three mills on the dollar for the support of free schools in the District. It was further ordered authorizing the Board to lay a tax not exceeding seven mills on the dollar for the building fund - one mill to be collected in the year 1866, and the remainder to be collected yearly as the Board found necessary.

According to the minutes of the Board, a man by the name of Philip Hetsel made the seats for the buildings that were built about this time. Instead of the old fire places, stoves were bought and hauled in for the schools.

The rent for a house for school purposes was about two dollars per month. Twelve dollars was paid to Washington McCoy for a lot for a school house in Division No. 3.

James F. Hill was allowed four hundred dollars for building a school house in division No. 5.

On Feb. 19, 1869, a petition from the citizens of Dist. No. 2 was presented to the Board to have the trustees of said District removed from office. The Board found no charges sufficient to remove them and so they were permitted to remain.

At a meeting of the Board of Education of Little Levels

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District (District No. 4) on Sept. 4, 1876, all members present, it was ordered that all teachers' salaries should be fixed as follows:

Grade No. 1 ----- \$35.00

" " 2 ----- 25.00

" " 3 ----- 20.00

" " 4 ----- 15.00

" " 5 ----- 10.00

Sept. 3, 1877:

" " 1 ----- 32.50

" " 2 ----- 22.50

" " 3 ----- 15.00

" " 4 ----- 10.00

" " 5 ----- 8.00

July 4, 1881:

" " 1 ----- 26.00

" " 2 ----- 22.00

" " 3 ----- 18.00

July 7, 1884:

" " 1 ----- 30.00

" " 2 ----- 25.00

" " 3 ----- 18.00

July 7, 1890:

" " 1 ----- 27.50

" " 2 ----- 22.50

" " 3 ----- 18.00

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476 white pupils and 56 colored.

In 1898, there were seventeen teachers employed.
At a meeting held at the academy July 9, 1899, Present:
Lease McMillan - Pres.

W. P. McClintic & M. Lee Beard - Commrs. - W. W. Ruckman, Secy.

Ordered that school houses of the Little Levels Dist.
be closed against all shows or entertainments for which an
admission fee is charged.

At the last meeting of the Board for the year 1899,
it was ordered that eighteen teachers be employed for the
year.

A levy of 27¢ on the \$100 was laid for the teachers'
fund and a levy of 10¢ on the \$100 for the Building Fund

From: Minute Books of the Secretary of Board of Education for
Little Levels Dist.

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List

Date Filed _____



Chapter 9 - Section 2

Some of the early school teachers of the L. L. District.

| | | | | | |
|---|----|------|----------|------------------|---------|
| Mannorah Moore | -- | 1867 | 56.25 | | |
| Jane Moore | -- | 1867 | 80.00 | | |
| Samuel Buzzard | -- | 1867 | 70.00 | teaching 2 mos. | |
| John M. Anderson | -- | 1868 | 50.00 | | |
| C. J. Stulting | -- | 1868 | 80.00 | | |
| Henrietta Stulting - (Assistant teacher) 1868 | | | | | |
| John J. Edmiston | -- | 1868 | 40.90 | teaching 30 days | |
| Maggie J. Moore | -- | 1868 | 70.00 | " | 1½ mos. |
| A. Buzzard | -- | 1868 | 40.00 | " | 2 mos. |
| Samuel Buzzard | -- | 1869 | 120.00 | " | 3 " |
| Daniel Bellison | -- | 1869 | 135.00 | | |
| Allen Taylor | -- | 1869 | 60.00 | | |
| Daniel Bellison | -- | 1869 | 120.00 | " | 4 " |
| T. M. Meredith | -- | 1869 | 56.25 | | |
| Maria L. Lewis | -- | 1869 | 105.00 | " | 3 " |
| Effie L. Pennell | -- | 1869 | 112.50 | | |
| Davis B. Kinnison | -- | 1869 | 4 mos. @ | 25.00 | |
| J. C. McClure | -- | 1869 | 76.00 | | |
| Julia A. Morrison | - | 1872 | 25.00 | | |
| Wester L. Ree | -- | 1873 | 54.00 | | |
| E. A. Peck | -- | 1873 | 133.33 | | |
| J. J. Moore | -- | 1873 | 40.00 | | |
| W. H. Overholt | -- | 1873 | 40.00 | | |
| W. H. Moore | | | | | |
| J. C. Garrick | -- | 1874 | | | |
| W. H. Overholt | -- | 1882 | 52.00 | | |

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Chapter 9 - Section 1 -a

Date Feb. 21, 1941

Research Worker Nelle V. McLaughlin

Date Research Taken Feb. 17, 1941

Typist Nelle V. McLaughlin

Date Typed Feb. 17, 1941

Source Encyclopedia Co. Hist. - Price

Date Filed _____

Chapter 9 - Section 1 - a

A large majority of the teachers during this period were preachers as well as preachers. The pioneers were not able financially to support a pastor and teacher too, so in many instances the preachers taught in private schools or tutored in the homes. The preachers were well qualified to teach as most of them had good educations. In reading the histories of the old academies in the county, we find that many of the principals as well as teachers were preachers and many of them Presbyterian. In two or three instances we find where the teacher even taught a profession such as surveying. The Rev. M. D. Dunlap taught ten years in the Hillsboro Academy while preaching in the county.

All of the very early schools were taught on the vocal plan, everyone studying as well as reciting aloud. It was in the year of 1848 that Isaac Moore, at a meeting considering reforms in the schools, advanced the new idea of silent schools. After this silent schools were more or less the order of the day.

From the Pocahontas County History by Dr. William T. Price, we get a pretty good idea of the nature of some of the schools before and about the time of the formation of the county. Although educational advantages were very limited at that time, there were some who persevered and as a result received a very good education for that day. A good ex-

ample was William Young.

William Young was born in Madison County, May 1798, and was about five years old when his father moved to this region. His youth was spent on the sides of Rich Mountain. His first teachers were William Auldridge, Squire John McNeill, and William McNeill. The school house was on Rush Run a mile or two from its confluence with Swago Creek. In early manhood he entered John McNulty's school, at the McNulty Place, near Harvin Chapel. From his teacher he learned surveying, which qualified him for the office he held for a number of years. The text book used by William Young in the study of surveying is yet in the possession of William Cochran's family, whose first wife was William Young's sister Elizabeth. On its well filled title page appears the following:

Geodesia, or the art of surveying and measuring of land made easy; showing by plain and practical rules how to survey. Moreover, a more sure and facile way of Surveying by the Chain than has hitherto been taught. As also how to lay out New Towns in America or elsewhere, with several other things never yet Published in our

Language

By John Love

The seventh Edition

London, 1760

In the address to the reader the author says:

What would be more ridiculous than for me to praise an art that all mankind knows he cannot live peaceably without. It is near hand as ancient (no doubt on't) as the world. For how could men set down to plant without knowing some distinction and boundary of their land. But (necessity being the mother of invention) we find the Egyptians, by reason of the Nile's overflowing - which either washed away all their bound marks, or covered them over with mud, brought this measuring of land first into an art, and honoured much the professors of it. The great usefulness as well as the pleasant and delightful study and wholesome exercise of which tempted many to apply themselves thereto, that at length in Egypt, as in the Bermudas, every rustic could measure his own land.

On the fly leaf in the handwriting of the young student was in the twentieth year of his age:

William Young, his book. Bought of
Mr. John McQuilty, price six shillings
April 16, 1818, on Thursday

Previously to him the following persons seemed to have owned the book:

Israel Hollowell, May 9, 1775
John Jacobson, Feb. 13, 1794
Joseph Finerton, Jan. 30, 1795.

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George Harrison; February 13, 1805

Joseph McNulty

This copy was bound in very substantial calf skin, and when it became worn on the back edges by sixty years service in so many hands, it was repaired by a wide strip of dressed deer skin, sewed on by waxed threads such as shoemakers use.

His tuition for two months was nine shillings (\$1.50) - seventy-five cents per month.

Having learned surveying with Mr. McNulty, William Young taught school a few months, and then went to Lewisburg, West Virginia, where he studied grammar, taught by Dr. McKenny as a specialty, according to old Greenleaf of bitter memory to grammar students of that period. One study at a time was the rule then. Upon his return from Lewisburg, Mr. Young opened a school on Stony Creek, in the school house near George Baxter's. His first grammar scholar was Samuel Waugh, brother of the late Rev. John Waugh. The school was taught on the open or vocal plan, and Samuel Waugh did not object to the noise. William seemed to have the monopoly of grammar teaching on Stony Creek for many years.

Having completed his education, so advanced for his day, and under so many difficulties, his thoughts turned to settling himself in life. He was happily married to Miss Ann Smith, and built up a home on Stony Creek, and reared a highly respectable family of sons and daughters. He was the second surveyor of Pocahontas - successor to Sampson Mathews.

From - Historical Sketches of P. Co. - by Dr. Wm. T. Price

Date Feb. 14, 1941

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Pocahontas 9
Subject Chapter 9 - Section 1

Date Feb. 14, 1941

Research Worker Nelle Y. McLaughlin

Date Research Taken Feb. 7, 1941

Typist Nelle Y. McLaughlin

Date Typed Feb. 14, 1941

Source Pocahontas County History by Date Filed

Hardesty's Encyclopedia, Mr. C. W. Price, 1938

R. W. Brown, Speech published in Pocahontas

R. A. Millikan, T. S. McNeel



The Greenbank Academy was built soon after the

Warrior was erected. It was built in 1888.

Chapter 9 - Section 1

In 1841-42, when the Hon. John Grimes represented Permeantia County in the Virginia Legislature, by a direct appeal from the people of the County, it was upon his motion that charters were granted for three academies in Permeantia County. One was to be located at Hillsboro, one at Montersville and one at Greenbank.

Greenbank Academy

The Greenbank Academy was built soon after the charter was granted. It may have been built in 1844 as some historians think. However, it is more probable that it was built about 1849 - as the old lodge building still standing directly across the street from where the old Academy stood, and which was built a year or two after the Academy, has moulded in the bricks the date 1851.

The Academy was a two room building with an open fireplace in each end. It was built of bricks, which were moulded and turned on the land of William Arbogast, near the Strawberry Swamp, now on the land of Fred Amosau.

The building was erected by a man named Price McCumb and was on the lands of James MacNeill, who made the deed to the lot to the Board of Trustees on July 4, 1853. The trustees were David A. Luff, W. J. MacNeill, James Moore, et al.

Benjamin J. Arbogast, Benjamin Tallman, Daniel McLaughlin, Daniel McLaughlin, William Dunkum, William Nottingham, Paul McNeel, Patrick Druffey, H. A. Mathews, Jacob Mathews, and James Wooddell.

The Academy was a great school center for a number of years, and was a great help in advancing school activities in the Community.

After the Civil war, a session or two was taught by Rev. McNeer. At this session B. M. Yeager began the study of land surveying and Robert J. Brown learned to master Davies' Algebra, and paid his tuition with a bear skin. Many of the Community's best citizens attended school at the old brick Academy under the private system.

After the session or two taught by the Rev. McNeer after the Civil war, the Academy was taken over by the Public school system.

Little Levels Academy

In the early part of the eighteenth century, a very important educational work flourished in what was then the village of Hillsboro. The Little Levels Academy was established in 1842 under a charter granted by the State of Virginia. The incorporators were: Josiah Beard, S. D. Poage, Samuel L. Mathews, Moses H. Poage, John Hill, Thomas Hill, James Miller, and Richard McNeel.

Under the supervision of Rev. Joseph Brown, the brick academy was built. It contained one large central room with two wings. Rev. Brown was the first teacher.

The name of Hillsboro was abandoned for a time in deference to that of "Academy", so strong was the influence of the school on the people. The old name of Hillsboro has since been restored to the town.

Rev. Joseph Brown was the Principal for seven years. Rev. M. D. Dunlap succeeded him and taught for ten years. His school had a wide reputation among his pupils and enjoyed the patronage of the Lewises and Irwins of Manawha County; Tyrees and others of Fayette County; the Hayneses and others of Monroe County; the Johnsons, Bears and others of Greenbrier County; the Densons, Lightners and Ruckmans of Highland County; and the Lewises and others of Bath County. He taught throughout the entire year, and sought the help of the more advanced pupils, notably, Rev. Wm. A. Price, and Rev. James Haynes. It was his opinion that about eighty pupils were about as many as any one man could handle.

Mr. Kelso of Pennsylvania, and Miss Priscilla Lemsey, of Augusta County, Virginia, taught one session, and after the close of school, were married, and went to western Pennsylvania to conduct a boarding school.

Rev. Daniel A. Penick filled the position of teacher one year, boarded at Colonel Paul McNeel's, and the following autumn married the latter's eldest daughter.

Rev. Emerson taught two sessions and boarded at Col. McNeel's. He made a compass that ran a perfect line from the McNeel gate to the Academy. Rev. Emerson was said to be a relative of Ralph Waldo Emerson and a native of New England. Miss Mary S. Lovelace of Connecticut taught in Hillsboro at the same time, but in a different building. Mr. Emerson became one of her ardent admirers but her choice fell to Mr. Henry Clark. Mr. Emerson afterwards married and established a school for young ladies at Shemariah, Augusta County, Virginia.

From the foregoing interesting data, it is easy to understand why so many noble and worthy lives were moulded in this fine institution of learning. The lives of Mr. Harmanus Stulting and family deserve special mention. They were natives of Holland and, to escape religious persecution, braved the perils of the deep on a rude craft of that day and came to dwell here when the country was in its infancy. They were a valuable addition to the social life of the community and through their devoted piety accomplished much good here. Mr. Cornelius Stulting, eldest son in the

Pocahontas County.

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and a fine teacher for many years. Mrs. Caroline Smith Sydenstricker gave her life as a missionary in China, being sent there by the Oak Grove Church.

Coming from this Academy were nine young men who later became ministers and several young ladies who became ministers wives. The men were H. M. Sydenstricker, A. M. Cackley, Gratton S. Weiford, John W. McNeel, Ed Overholt and Harry Buchanan. One of these became a Presbyterian minister, two were of the M. E. church, one became a local elder and a most excellent Bible Class teacher in Mt. Vernon Place Church in Washington, D. C. The rest became members of the Baltimore Conference South.

During the Civil war the academy was used by the soldiers for a place in which to camp. After the war, the Academy was again revived. It was maintained by private families and functioned until the high school was built. Students from all over Pocahontas County took advantage of the opportunity to secure college entrance requirements so near home. Mr. F. S. McNeel told me that he entered Washington & Lee University as a Junior from the Academy. Each student paid tuition. It offered a preparatory course. When the old academy was torn down, the bricks were used in the foundation of the new high school building.

HUNTERSVILLE ACADEMY.

Sometime in 1842, a chartered academy was built at Huntersville near the place afterwards occupied by Dr. Patterson's residence.

The names of some of the teachers were: J. C. Humphries from Greenville, Augusta County; A. Crawford of Brownsburg, Va., Rev. T. P. W. Magruder from Maryland, and J. Woods Price, and a Professor Miller from Pennsylvania.

This academy functioned until the Civil war. It is possible that a term or two might have been taught after the war, but when the free school system came into effect in West Virginia, it was taken over by it.

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Information: | Hardesty's Encyclopedia |
| | Hist. Hillsboro Community - by Izetta Wallace |
| | Speech pub. in Po. Times by Dr. R. A. Millikan |
| | C. W. Price |
| | Mrs. Della Yeager |
| | T. S. McNeel |
| | R. W. Brown |

Subject Chapter I - Section 2 Date June 12, 1961

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH INVESTIGATION REPORT

Subject Chapter I - Section 2 Date June 12, 1961

Research Worker Hollis T. McLaughlin Date Research Taken June 12, 1961

Typist Hollis T. McLaughlin Date Typed June 12, 1961

Source McLaughlin's family history of Date Filed June 12, 1961
Word of McLaughlin.



Chapter 4 - Section 2

List of Teachers of Pocahontas County for the year

1893-94. Published in Pocahontas Times.

1893

Ardie Saxter - now Mrs. A. A. Clear of Penn.

Allie Saxter - dead

Hers A. Boblett - dead

Lava C. Hill

Alice C. Clark - dead

Lula A. Boblett - Mrs. Aldridge McClure of Dunbar

Allie McLaughlin - Mrs. D. W. Dever - dead

Verdie Clark - Mrs. Wm. Mann - (retired)

Hora Kennison - dead

Jenna Silva - Mrs. T. M. Hill, State of Washington

Leah Kennison - Mrs. George L. Moore

Georgia Ann "Annie" - Mrs. Judy - Montgomery, N. Va.

Little Curry - Mrs. Morris - Huntington, N. Va.

Maggie - Cople - Cleveland, Ohio.

Hava McNeill - Mrs. C. H. Kee, "Arlinton, N. Va

Annette Ligon - Mrs. D. T. Coyner - Clover Lick

Horn Wiley - Mrs. T. H. Patterson

Bertie Beard - Mrs. Clark - dead

Mrs. Warner - dead

Leah Ellen Hill - Mrs. Deputy - Danmore, N. Va.

Alice McLaughlin - Mrs. Brooks - dead

Claudia Spence - dead

John Warner - Mrs. Robert Kelley - Atkins

Ellie Kerr - dead

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W. H. Shafer - mail clerk out of Lynchburg

George E. Moore - a farmer at Millsboro

C. S. McNulty - attorney at Roanoke, Va.-

Montgomery G. Mathews - dead

A. J. Snedegar - dead

A. L. Anderson - dead

John A. McLaughlin - business man - Marlinton

John S. Moore - dead

J. B. White - dead

S. Workman

E. C. Eagle - attorney at Hinton

Hella F. Clark - Mrs. Henry Yeager - Millsboro

Delia Payne - Mrs. King - Anthony's Creek

J. W. Kenick, colored - dead

E. M. Lockridge - dead

Ida H. Bruffey - Mrs. C. M. Carver

Forrest Hill - Charleston

T. M. McCarty - minister - Fairmont

1894

Label Ligon - Mrs. Hankins - Richmond - dead

John L. Wade

Aggie Moore - Mrs. Ellis Moore - Tenn.

Florence Nively - Mrs. Frank Lever - Nebraska

J. L. Loudernalk

M. E. Walton - Lobelia

John H. Grimes - Frost - died 1840

L. B. Vaughn - dead

J. E. Peck --dead

J. F. Hively -- dead

Samuel Spencer - Boyer

L. J. Marshall - dead

Lewis A. Yeager - dead

Charles Spencer - Greenbank

G. D. McNeill - Prin. Marlinton High School

J. S. Kennison - minister in N. C.

Frank Mouchin - Elkins

Quade Arbogast -- dead

Jessie Renick --

Laura Herold -- dead

Bessie Patterson -- Mrs. J. Ed Taylor - Dunmore

Mary M. Brown - Mrs. W. A. Gladwell - dead

Callie McLaughlin - dead

Leva Kennison

Paul Eskridge -- Mrs. Andrew Oliver - Florida

Myrtle M. Herold -- Mrs. Price Moore - Knapps Creek

subject

West Virginia Writers' Project

Subject Chapter 9 - Section 2 Date June 9, 1941

Research Worker Nella Y. McLaughlin Date Research Taken June 4, 5, 1941

Typist Nelle Y. McLaughlin Date Typed June 6, 1941

Source: Reports of former County Supts. Filed
in the Office of the
County superintendent.



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Chapter 9 - Section 2

From a report of County Supt. of Schools, James W. Warwick, Jr., for the school year ending June 30, 1900.

Number, kind and value of buildings, appliances and grounds.

| No. | Name of School District | | | | Whole No. | Whole No. rooms used | No rooms with Apparatus |
|-----|----------------------------|-------|-----|-------|--------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | Frame | Log | Brick | | | |
| 1 | Green Bank | 23 | 2 | 0 | 25 | 25 | 25 |
| 2 | Edray | 26 | 0 | 0 | 26 | 27 | 00 |
| 3 | Huntersville | 15 | 2 | 0 | 17 | 17 | 00 |
| 4 | Levels | 11 | 4 | 0 | 15 | 16 | 00 |
| | Total | 75 | 8 | 0 | 83 | 85 | 25 |

| No. | Name of School District | No. Schools with libraries | No. with im- proved grounds | No. with grounds fenced |
|-----|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | | | |
| 1 | Green Bank | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| 2 | Edray | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | Huntersville | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 4 | Levels | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Total | 0 | 2 | 1 |

Pocahontas County

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| | Value of School Houses | Value of Lands | Value Of Furniture | Value of Apparatus |
|-----------------|------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Green Bank | \$5650.00 | 370.00 | 375.00 | 167.00 |
| 2. "dray | 6425.00 | 299.00 | 630.00 | 20.00 |
| 3. Huntersville | 3338.25 | 127.00 | 168.00 | 0 00 |
| 4. Levels | 2610.00 | 340.00 | 460.00 | 75.50 |
| Total | 18023.25 | 1136.00 | 1633.00 | 262.50 |

Value of Libraries

Total value of all school
property.

| | | |
|-----------------|-------|------------|
| 1. Green Bank | 0 00 | \$ 6762.00 |
| 2. "dray | 38.00 | 7298.00 |
| 3. Huntersville | 00 | 3633.25 |
| 4. Levels | 0 00 | 3485.50 |
| Total | 38.00 | 21178.75 |

Pocahontas County

-3-

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|------|
| Total number pupils enrolled: | White | 1796 |
| | colored | 62 |
| | Total --- | 1858 |

Total daily attendance -- 1144

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|-----|
| No. cases corporal punishment | Boys -- | 34 |
| | Girls | 265 |
| | Colored boys | 2 |
| | girls | 0 |
| | Total | 301 |

No. cases tardiness ----- 970

| | |
|-------------------|----|
| No. cases truancy | 20 |
|-------------------|----|

Pupils neither absent nor tardy -- 51

Average age --- 11

Total number teachers --- 82

No. who have taught same school two terms -- 13

No. teaching first term -- 3

No. having state certificates -- 0

No. graduates Normal school -- 0

No. Graduates West Va. Colored Institute -- 0

No. graduates West Virginia University -- 0

No who are residents of other states- 0

No. having No. 1 or State Certificates -- White-34 Colored-0

No. having No. 2 Certificates -- White-35 Colored-2

No. having No. 3 Certificates -- White 35 Colored-2
Length of -- White 12 Colored-1

Length of term - 5 mos.

No. visits to schools by:

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| County Superintendent -- | 42 |
| Board members ----- | 5 |
| Trustees --- | 194 |
| Parents and others | 254 |

Rate of levy:

Teachers Fund- 36¢

Building Fund 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢

Purchase of text books - 0

Rate per month paid teachers:

For No. 1 Certificates -- \$25.00

For No. 2 Certificates -- 22.12 $\frac{1}{2}$

" " 3 " -- 18.00

Cost of Education:

Per Capita per term

Based on enumeration ----- \$4.06

Based on Enrollment ----- 5.17

Based on average Daily Attendance- 8.11

Board of Examiners:

T. A. Bruffey, Lobelia, W. Va.

J. H. Lantz, Frost, W. Va.

Members of the Boards of Education:

| | |
|------------|-------------------------------------|
| Greenbank: | Dr. J. P. Moomau, Greenbank, W. Va. |
| | Ellis Curry, " |
| | H. J. Brown, " |
| | J. H. Curry, " |

Edray Dist.:

Jacob Moore, Edray

John W. Tyler, "

John A. Young "

J. H. Patterson, Marlinton

Huntersville Dist.

O. B. Sharp, Frost

S. P. Curry, Huntersville

Chas. L. Moore, "

Wm. H. Grose, "

Little Levels Dist.

Isaac McNeel, Millpoint

Dr. F. T. McClintic, Academy

Geo. W. Callison, "

W. W. Ruckman, Mill Point

Hon. J. R. Trotter
State Supt. Schools
Charleston, W. Va.

Dear Sir,

I have the honor to submit to you the foregoing report of the schools of this county for the year ending June 30, 1900. I regret to say that you will notice that only forty-two schools were visited by me during the year, this was caused by the illness of my wife, as I was called home during my annual round, and before I could resume my work the schools had closed. All schools it was my pleasure to visit were getting along very nicely, though in many cases the attendance was small on account of mumps and measles. I believe that we should have a uniform system of taxation, and that the salaries paid teachers should be the same throughout the county. I received the schools from my predecessor in very good state of organization, with a corps of teachers quite alive to their work, and it shall be my aim to use every effort in my power to advance the general interests of the schools in my county. We aimed in our examinations last year to make them practical and to impress upon those desiring to teach the necessity of obtaining their respective grades through their own personal efforts and not endeavor to deal dishonorably in the matter. All matters of detail are found under their respective heads.

Thanking you for all official courtesies shown me in this, my first years work, I am,
Respectfully,
James W. Warwick, Jr., Co. Supt. Schools
Academy, W. Va.
July 27, 1900

Deschutes County

WEST VIRGINIA HISTORICAL PROJECT

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

29

Subject Chapter 8 - Section 2 Date Mar. 18, 1941
Research Worker Halle V. McLaughlin Date Research Taken Mar. 18, 20, 21
Typist Halle V. McLaughlin Date Typed Mar. 22, 1941
Source Notebook of County Supts. Date Filed _____
from 1866 - 1879.
County Court Order Book No. 7
Minutes of Boards of Education.



Chapter 2 - Section 2

Names of the Districts in Pocahontas County:

No. 1 - Meade District (Greenbank Dist.)

No. 2 - Lincoln District (Edray District.)

No. 3 - Grant District (Huntersville Dist.)

No. 4 - Union District (Little Levels Dist.)

After the Civil War, when the Free School System came into effect, there was a Board of Education in each of the four Districts of the County, namely, Meade, Lincoln, Grant and Union as they were called after the war. These Boards were made up of a President and three members. A secretary was appointed by the Board to serve for one year. The secretaries received a small compensation for their services. The Districts were further divided into sub-districts and the board appointed three Trustees in each sub-district for a term of one, two and three years. The Trustees looked after the school buildings, obtained suitable houses, hired teachers, saw to repairs that were sanctioned by the Board, etc.

The duties of the Boards of Education were many. They laid the levy for the teachers' fund and building fund. They decided upon the length of the term of school each year and paid the teachers according to the grade of their certificates. They also decided upon all building, let contracts, inspected and accepted or rejected all finished work from contractors. They bought all school supplies and appointed

someone to handle school books and dispense to the pupils. The Board bought all school equipment, had furniture and blackboards made. The Board paid all the school bills and handled all of the money allowed the schools.

In the latter part of the 1880's the different publishing companies started sending their representatives into the County to meet with the different Boards. From these representatives the Board bought maps, globes, crayons and different series of books which were the first reference books in the schools and the beginning of the school libraries.

The object of the Free School System was to give equal educational advantages to all. The population of the County at that time was so scattered that this was almost an impossibility. Some of the pupils, the more ambitious ones walked miles to get to school, but some received very little schooling. At the very beginning of the new system, there was only about one school in each sub-district but gradually other schools were started. The new school houses that were built about 1885 and 87 were well built log buildings. Many of the school buildings were abandoned houses rented from the settlers. After the first few years of the Free School system, most of the buildings were frame. After 1900 there were some brick buildings built in the larger towns. The desks, benches, recitation benches chairs and blackboards were made if someone in the community. After 1900, they were ordered from Montgomery Ward or some other firm and brought down the train. At the beginning of this period until the

railroad came into the county, stoves were hauled in from Staunton, Millboro or Ronceverte. The fuel, of course, was wood. There was a water bucket and a tin cup or glass for each school. Slates were used altogether by the pupils in the early schools.

The first County Superintendent of Free Schools to serve Pocahontas County was Jonathan G. McNeill. At a meeting of the Supervisors of Pocahontas County on May 8, 1866 at Edray, Present: Adam Nottingham, President, Charles Morrison, Reuben Buzzard and William B. Hannah, the question arose, "what salary shall be allowed to the County Superintendent of Free Schools"? In answer it was ordered that he be allowed one hundred dollars per year. Later, in 1867, the Court decided to pay to Jonathan McNeill, County Superintendent, the sum of one hundred fifty dollars per year for his services and expenses.

The county superintendent in those days visited the schools as often as possible. They had to go on horseback and it was not possible for them to get to every school each year.

I have in my possession a small notebook kept by the county superintendents from the year 1866 to 1879...It contains many interesting things.

In those days the teachers were examined for their certificates by the County Superintendent and a Board of Examiners of which the county supt. was president. Each year the Board met at Millboro, Hunters-

ville and Greenbank, examined the teachers and granted them certificates. The examinations were oral. The fee charged for giving these examinations was one dollar to each person. From 1869 to 1874, the record showed that the teachers paid a fee of two dollars. This money was paid to the Board of Examiners and was used to pay them for their services. They were allowed three dollars per day for a day on which to prepare and a day on which to examine. Certificates were good for only one year and then the teachers stood another examination to determine the grade of certificate for the coming year. Often the members of the Examining Board or one of its members would go to the teacher's home and examine him there.

There were five grades of certificates granted. One required twenty-five questions were asked.

If only five questions were missed he received - No. 1

If " ten " " " " " - " 2

" " twenty " " " " " - " 3

" " thirty-five " " " " " - " 4

" " fifty-five " " " " " - " 5

There is no complete set of questions in this notebook. However, in examining some of the teachers, the Supt. had evidently written some of their answers down. These answers show that they had been well drilled in the subjects which they had studied.

There were a few of the questions in the notebook, on spelling, arithmetic, grammar and Geography. I shall

write some of these questions below: These were asked on an examination given on Feb. 23, 1867.

- 1.- Is the present Congress of the United States legal?
- 2.- Is West Virginia constitutionally a state?
- 3.- How is a representative in Congress chosen?
- 4.- Give a description of the earth's surface.
- 5.- What is a noun?
- 6.- Name the different kinds of nouns.
- 7.- Define a verb.
- 8.- How many kinds of sentences are there? Name them.
- 9.- What is Arithmetic?
- 10.- What is Addition?
- 11.- What is subtraction?
- 12.- What is a unit?
- 13.- Define accent. Emphasis.
- 14.- Name the oceans.
- 15.- Define Equator.
- 16.- What is latitude? Longitude?
- 17.- Define a transitive verb.
- 18.- Define an intransitive verb.

By taking the examinations every year, a teacher who received a No. 1 this year might get a No. 5 next year. In looking over the names of the teachers who received certificates I find many who received No. 1's each year.

The enumeration of the youth in Pocahontas County was recorded for the following years:

POCCHONTAS COUNTY

1872 -

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| | | |
|---|-------|------|
| Township of Union (Little Levels Dist.) | ----- | 430 |
| " " Grant (Mantersville ") | ----- | 356 |
| " " Lincoln (Maray Dist.) | ----- | 300 |
| " " "eade (Greenbank ") | ----- | 324 |
| Total | | 1310 |

Enumeration of Youth 1873 --- Pocchontas Co.

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------|------|
| 1st Dist. (Greenbank) | ----- | 347 |
| 2nd. Dist. (Maray) | ----- | 308 |
| 3rd. Dist (Mantersville) | ----- | 290 |
| 4th. Dist. (Little Levels) | ----- | 436 |
| Total | | 1381 |

Enumeration of youth 1875

| | Scholars | Col. |
|--------------------|-----------|------|
| 1st. Dist. | ----- 368 | none |
| 2nd Dist. | ----- 379 | 14 |
| 3rd Dist. | ----- 293 | 15 |
| 4th Dist. | ----- 464 | 57 |
| Total no. Scholars | 1504 | |

Enumeration for the year ending Aug. 31, 1876.

| | white | col. | Total |
|---------------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| 1st. District ----- | 394 | 1 | 395 |
| 2nd. Dist. ----- | 383 | 13 | 396 |
| 3rd. Dist. ----- | 316 | 24 | 340 |
| 4th. Dist. ----- | <u>445</u> | <u>45</u> | <u>490</u> |
| Total ----- | 1538 | 83 | 1621 |

Enumeration - 1877

| Dist. No. | white | col. | Total |
|------------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| 1st. Dist. ----- | 395 | 0 | 395 |
| 2nd. Dist. ----- | 413 | 17 | 430 |
| 3rd. Dist. ----- | 311 | 28 | 339 |
| 4th. Dist. ----- | <u>468</u> | <u>39</u> | <u>505</u> |
| Total ----- | 1585 | 84 | 1669 |

Sept. 27, 1876, pursuant to a call, of the Board of
Examiners met in Huntersville this day, present: J. W.
Gerrick, Jr. President, W. F. Arbogast and John G. Moore.
The examination continued two days and the usual fees
having been paid, certificates were granted Sept. 28, 1876,
to the following applicants:

W. F. Arbogast ----- "Rule No. 1
Miss Anna Gerrick ---- " " 1
S. S. Moore ----- " " 1

| | | | | |
|---------------------|-------|------|-----|---|
| G. W. McCollum | ..... | Code | No. | 2 |
| George U. Lee | ..... | " | " | 1 |
| George Baxter | ..... | " | " | 1 |
| George A. May | ..... | " | " | 1 |
| T. H. Wooddell | ..... | " | " | 1 |
| Lee A. H. Sullender | ..... | " | " | 1 |
| Uriah Bird | ..... | " | " | 1 |
| Hilda M. Button | ..... | " | " | 2 |
| George A. Burner | ..... | " | " | 2 |
| James C. McClure | ..... | " | " | 1 |
| John B. Gillispie | ..... | " | " | 2 |
| Orlton B. Halford | ..... | " | " | 1 |
| H. F. Campbell | ..... | " | " | 1 |
| Geo. A. Palmer | ..... | " | " | 4 |

Oct. 27, 1876

| | | | | |
|----------------------|-------|---|---|---|
| G. B. Stalling | ..... | " | " | 1 |
| G. F. White | ..... | " | " | 2 |
| G. M. McCallie | ..... | " | " | 1 |
| Mr. B. McCallie | ..... | " | " | 1 |
| G. C. McLaughlin | ..... | " | " | 1 |
| G. B. McCallie | ..... | " | " | 2 |
| G. B. Flagg | ..... | " | " | 4 |
| G. A. Palmer | ..... | " | " | 2 |
| Miss Carrie Stalling | ..... | " | " | 1 |
| Miss Mary B. Young | ..... | " | " | 1 |
| Miss Mary B. Young | ..... | " | " | 1 |

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------|-----|---|
| Miss Maggie E. Erwin ----- | Grade | No. | 1 |
| Miss Hannie B. Armentrout ----- | " | " | 1 |
| Mrs. H. E. Poage ----- | " | " | 1 |
| Mrs. G. C. Evans ----- | " | " | 1 |
| Miss Laura L. Lockridge ----- | " | " | 1 |

Nov. 25, 1876

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|
| Horace M. Lockridge ----- | " | " | 2 |
| B. F. White ----- | " | " | 2 |
| James M. Hamilton ----- | " | " | 2 |
| Josiah C. Louny, Jr. ----- | " | " | 3 |
| Miss Minnie C. Louny ----- | " | " | 3 |
| Miss Kate R. Curry ----- | " | " | 3 |

Dec. 2, 1876.

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|
| Miss Mollie Swope ----- | " | " | 1 |
| Miss Lucie L. Clark ----- | " | " | 1 |
| Mrs. Annie C. Sheets ----- | " | " | 1 |
| Charles C. Arbogast ----- | " | " | 1 |
| Horace M. Lockridge ----- | " | " | 1 |
| B. F. Swinzell ----- | " | " | 3 |

Financial Account.

Amount apportioned from the state fund Apr. 1, 1866 - \$ 796.33

Supt's salary for 4 mos. 20 days - \$38.66

Divisions -

Union Township ----- \$ 277.45

Lincoln " ----- 217.05

Grant " ----- 212.95

Amount from the state fund reported 1st April 1867 to be
appropriated to Head Township ----- \$261.22

Apportionment of the state fund for year 1876.

Am. received from state ----- \$1775.03

Less County Supt's Salary ----- 116.00

Balance apportioned to 1621 youths 1659.03

pro rata equals \$ 1.02 561/1621

1st. Dist. containing 393 youths receives as follows:

$1659.03 \times 393 \div 1621 =$ \$ 404.273 +

2nd Dist. containing 396 youths receives:

$1659.03 \times 396 \div 1621 =$ 405.29 +

3rd. Dist. containing 340 youths receives:

$1659.03 \times 340 \div 1621 =$ 347.977 +

4th Dist. containing 490 youths receives:

$1659.03 \times 490 \div 1621 =$ 501.495 +

Total ----- 1659.03

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Pachontas

Subject Chapter 9 - Section 3 Date June 2, 1941

Research Worker Nelle Y. McLaughlin Date Research Taken May 29, 1941

Typist Nelle Y. McLaughlin Date Typed June 2, 1941

Source Minutes of the Board of Ed. Date Filed _____

Pocahontas Times



Chapter 9 - Section 3

Cass School

The first contract for the first Cass school house was awarded to Henry Kessler on July 20, 1901 for the sum of \$280. Those serving on the Board of Education of Greenbank District at that time were:

Dr. J. P. Moomau, Pres.

E. N. Gurry, Robt. J. Brown, Comrs.

- On Oct. 19, 1901, the building was completed. I. D. Hughes was appointed trustee for the Cass school and J. Newton Gum was soon afterward appointed for the term of three years.

In 1905, R. J. Brown was ordered to prepare specifications for a two room building at Cass and file with the board so that they might determine whether or not they were able to build such a building with the present levy.

The school house was not built until 1907. The contract was awarded to J. W. Milligan and a draft was issued him for \$1550.00

In 1914, the old school building was sold to the Spruce Lumber Company for \$1000. J. W. Goodsell, who was president of the board of education at that time, had purchased a lot from Anderson Chestnut for the sum of \$800. A new four room building was contracted to T. J. Sigler of Elkins for the sum of \$3675.

In 1915, the Spruce Lumber Company built a two room addition to the Cass school house, the agreement being that the board would pay rent on the rooms until they could pay the

Pocahontas County

-2-

full amount which was \$2466.87.

In 1920 an addition was built to the Cass Graded School building. The cost of this addition was \$8,252.80. At this time the sub-district of Cass was allowed two extra months of graded school, payable out of a special levy on Cass sub-district.

Minutes of the Board of Education of Greenbank Dist.

Pocahontas County

-1-

Chapter 9 - Section 3

Durbin School

In 1901, the Board of Education of Greenbank District considered the building of a school house at Durbin. However, they gave up the idea at that time owing to the fact that a satisfactory site could not be found, and also the fact that there would not be a sufficient number of scholars to run the school. In those days when a site was selected, most of the patrons of the school as well as the board of education had a say in its selection and a site had to be selected which was satisfactory to all.

On August 16, 1902, the board consisting of Dr. J. P. Moosau, Pres., R. J. Brown and Ellis N. Curry, members, voted to build a school house at Durbin. The contract was awarded C. M. Acord for \$300 on August 16, 1902, provided a deed for the lots was filed before the work was commenced. The deed was evidently not filed for we find in the minutes of the board of education that the Durbin schoolhouse was not built until 1903.

In 1903 it was contracted to H. L. Kesler for \$300. The following trustees were appointed for one, two and three years: J. P. Kerr for one year; A. M. Oliver for two years; Charlie Curtid for three years.

In 1908, a new school building was erected in Durbin by J. W. Milligan, Contractor for the sum of \$1704.75. The old building was sold.

In 1917, the Durbin Graded school and the Tannery school

Pocahontas County

Pocahontas County

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were consolidated. The new school thus formed was to be known as the Durbin Graded School. A new school building was to be built in Durbin. In May 1921, the contract for the new Durbin school house was awarded to Mr. C. I. Saffell of Elkins for the sum of \$39,000. A heating system was installed costing \$4800.

In 1931, two additional rooms were built onto the Durbin school house. This contract was let to C. I. Saffell of Elkins for \$3443.00, and the contract for the heating plant addition, repairs to the old heating plant, and a motor for the Durbin school building let to the Stanton Heater Co. for \$1,750.

From: Minutes of the Board of Education of
Greenbank District.

First County Teachers' Institute in Marlinton

The first teachers institute to be held in Marlinton was held in 1886 in the Presbyterian Church.

In those days the big cultural and social event of the year was the County Teachers Institute. This was usually held at Huntersville, but as the Skyles were maintaining the biggest and best hotel in the county, the young county superintendent, the late Horace M. Lockridge was easily persuaded to hold the institute at a place convenient for the Levels and Edray teachers.

Institute was attended by many who were not teachers. The day and night sessions were held in the church. One night was given to sociability and Mrs. Skyles pulled a dance. That was the first and foremost and the fearfulest crises that the public school system has had to weather. In those days there was a powerful, outspoken loyalist minority opposed to free schools. They seized upon this social event as a sign of frivolity on the part of those into whose hands was placed, at great public expense, the training of the rising generation. They proved to their own satisfaction that the county was destined to disaster unless the levy for schools was voted down.

From: Pocahontas Times for May 6, 1937

The County Institute was held after this each year at Marlinton until it was discontinued about the time the County Unit Plan came into effect. The teachers' attendance at summer school has taken the place of the old institute.

Pocahontas County

-2-

However, at various times during the school year, the teachers from all over the county are called together at Marlinton for instruction, principally about routine matters.

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Pocahontas

Subject Chapter 9 - Section 3- a

Date April 17, 1941

Research Worker Nella Y. McLaughlin

Date Research Taken Apr. 14, 15

Typist Nella Y. McLaughlin

Date Typed Apr. 15, 1941

Source Minutes of the Board of
Education of Po. Co.

Date Filed _____



West Virginia Writers' Project
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Subject Chapter 9- Sec. 2

Date Feb. 28, 1941

Research Worker Nelle Y. McLaughlin

Date Research Taken Feb. 26, 27

Typist Nelle Y. McLaughlin

Date Typed Feb. 27

Source Minute books of Sec. of

Date Filed _____

Board of Ed.



Chapter 9 - Section 2

The Board of Education of District No. 1 (Greenbank District) met at Greenbank on Saturday, October 11, 1879.

Present: J. C. Arbogast, President

G. W. Siple, Adam Arbogast, C. C. Turner,
J. F. Patterson, Comrs.

J. F. Patterson, Secy.

This was the first meeting of the Board of Education of this district of which there are any records at the present time.

On Sept. 8, 1880, the Board ordered that the schools of the district be held four months during the present school year.

Salaries for the present year were fixed as follows, according to the grade of certificate:

Grade No. 1 -- \$27.50

" " 2 -- 23.50

" " 3 -- 18.00

On motion it was ordered that a tax of twenty-five cents on the hundred on all taxable property be levied for teachers' fund and nine cents for the building fund.

On motion it was ordered that in the appointment of teachers to the several schools the Board was willing to consent to the wishes of the patrons of the schools, and would, where the patrons united upon a teacher, appoint said applicant to teach said school.

Ordered that all pupils over age shall be required to

pay one dollar per month tuition.

July 1, 1881 - It having been ascertained by the board that it will be necessary to raise by levy, for the payment of teachers' salaries for the current year, in addition to the available funds on hand, \$1145, it was ordered that a tax of thirty-one cents on the one hundred valuation of the real and personal property of the district be levied for that purpose and ten cents be levied for the building fund.

July 6, 1885. Present: Dr. J. P. Lomau, Pres.
P. B. Yeager, J. F. Patterson, members

At this meeting it was resolved that owing to the depression in business, and general failure of crops among the people, that the board would not build during the ensuing scholastic year any school houses. The resolution was adopted.

July 1886, ordered that twenty schools be taught in the Greenbank District for that year.

July 1887-- Ordered four months school and the teachers' salaries were fixed as follows:

| | | |
|-------------|---|---------|
| Grade No. 1 | - | \$23.00 |
| " " | 2 | 22.50 |
| " " | 3 | 18.00 |

A tax of twenty cents was levied for the teachers' fund and fifteen cents for the building fund. Also ordered that a limited number of school books be purchased to be sold to the patrons of the school.

On the same page with the minutes of the Board meeting for July, 1887, is the following printed notice pasted on

the page:

Whereas, The custom that has prevailed of having an exhibition or jollification on the last day of the term of the Free Schools in the Green Bank district, is detrimental, in the extreme, to the advancement of the pupils, and is bringing the schools into disrepute ---

Therefore, the Board of Education of the Green Bank District, do hereby notify the Trustees of the several sub-districts composing Green Bank District, to forbid the teachers in charge of the several schools of the district, to have, or allow to be held any exhibition, jollification, or gathering of the people on the last day of the term for such purpose, or allow the pupils to make preparations for any exhibition etc., to be held after the close of school. Each teacher will be required to conduct the last day of the term, similar to the previous days thereof -- nothing in the foregoing shall be so construed as to debar the teachers from holding examinations in their schools. Special attention to the trustees and teachers is called to Chapter CXLIX sec 19 Code of West Virginia.

By order of the Board of Education.

June 29, 1893 - The Board bought through a representative of the Gaxton Company five copies of "The Gaxton School Series" and the Board adopted said series for use in the free schools of the district. Price \$37.50 each.

Board notified trustees that in all schools where the enrollment averages less than eight, the school shall be

Chapter 9 - Section 2

TEACHERS IN GREENBANK DISTRICT -- 1860-1862

B. M. Yeager
Uriah Bird
W. F. Arbogast
W. H. Hull
C. O. Arbogast
Amos S. Gillispie
Miss Bessie A. Curry
J. L. Arbogast
Miss Allie Jane Arbogast
A. J. Dysard
Miss Lucy H. Clark
C. R. Slavens
H. D. Carver
James W. Gillispie
A. L. Nottingham
J. M. McLaughlin
Miss Julia M. Nottingham

discontinued.

Board ordered teachers to require parents or guardians of scholars belonging to another school to pay one dollar per month tuition in advance--Provided that in the Greenbank school, this demand shall not be made in case the pupils enter for the entire term of the public and subscription school.

Dec. 12, 1896

Books received from the following companies:

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| B. H. Butler & Co. | for school books | \$ 13.80 |
| J. B. Lippincott & Co. | " " | 18.10 |
| Christopher Sowers & Co. | " " | 2.34 |
| Werner & Co. | " " | 9.60 |
| Thompson Brown & Co. | " " | 8.40 |
| Ginn & Co. | " " | 29.36 |
| D. C. Heath & Co. | " " | <u>20.28</u> |
| Total | | 302.18 |

July 5, 1896, it was ordered by the board that the schools be taught five months.

At the turn of the century there were about twenty-six schools in the Greenbank District.

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Chapter 9 - Section 2

Date Mar. 14, 1941

Research Worker Helle Y. McLaughlin

Date Research Taken Mar. 7, 1941

Typist Helle Y. McLaughlin

Date Typed Mar. 13, 1941

Source Minute books of the Board
of Education of Adray Dist.

Date Filed _____



-1-

Chapter 1 - Section 2

Wray District.

Toward the close of the century the minutes of the Board of Education of Wray District show that:

July 3, 1897 Members of the Board present:

Jacob S. Moore, President

John W. Tyler & J. A. Young Consrs.

J. H. Patterson, Secy.

The schools of the district were ordered to be taught five months. The teachers' salaries were set at:

Grade No. 1 - \$25.00

" " 2 - 22.00

" " 3 - 18.00

A forty cent levy was laid for the teachers' fund and twelve cents on the \$100 for the building fund. There were twenty-six school houses in Wray district.

July 1, 1900 Schools were to be taught for the term of five months for the coming year. There were to be twenty-seven teachers employed.

Salaries:

No. 1 - \$30.00

" 2 - 25.00

" 3 - 18.00

Chapter 2 - Section 2

-1-

Huntersville Dist.

The first meeting of the Board of Education of Huntersville District of which any records can be found was on July 4, 1881. Present:

J. C. Louny, Jr. -- President

Wm. J. Moore & P. M. Harper, members

James W. Warwick was appointed secretary.

Ordered that there be twelve schools taught during the year 1881-82. The length of the term was to be six months owing to the fact that there had only been two months of school during the year 1880-81. Teachers' salaries 1881-82:

| | | |
|-------------|---|---------|
| Grade No. 1 | - | \$24.00 |
| " " 2 | - | 20.00 |
| " " 3 | - | 16.00 |

In the year 1884 the salaries were raised to:

| | | |
|-------------|---|---------|
| Grade No. 1 | - | \$25.00 |
| " " 2 | - | 22.00 |
| " " 3 | - | 18.00 |

In the year 1882, fourteen teachers were employed.

- In 1885 for the first time the school term was made five months.

In 1890 there were seventeen teachers employed, the school term was five months and the teachers' salaries were the same as 1884.

Chapter 9 - Section 2

Teachers employed in the Huntersville District during
the year 1881-82:

E. H. Moore

Am. A. Sharp

Oscar B. Sharp

Miss Jennie W. Early

David L. Sutton

B. V. Irvine

Joshua B. McNeill

James H. Gillispie

O. C. Taylor

Wm. H. Hall

1883-84

Miss Arminta M. McKeever

H. M. Lockridge

Miss Fannie C. Lockridge

E. H. Moore

Miss Laura L. Lockridge

Miss Rachel C. Carpenter

Miss Minnie Beard

O. B. Sharp

J. H. Overholt

Wm. H. Sutton

John A. Anderson

G. B. Grimes.

West Virginia Drivers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Bookhout

Subject Chapter 9 - Section 2

Date April 11, 1941

Research Worker Nelle Y. McLaughlin

Date Research Taken April 9, 1941

Typist Nelle Y. McLaughlin

Date Typed April 9, 1941

Source Report of County Supt. of Free Schools
of West Virginia. 1895-96
Virgil A. Lewis, St. Supt.



POCAHONTAS COUNTY - 1895.

Davis L. Barlow, County Superintendent.

I have the honor of transmitting to you my second annual report of the condition of the public schools of Pocahontas County for the school year beginning July 1, 1894, and ending June 30, 1895.

SCHOOL EXPENDITURES- The total expenditure for the public schools in Pocahontas county, including teachers' salaries and current expenses only, is \$9,197, an increase of \$115.96 over the year preceding. Of this sum \$8,122.07 went for the payment of teachers' salaries. The average expenditure per pupil was \$3.85 per term, or 96 cents per month.

TEACHING - The number of teachers employed in our public schools is seventy-five, of whom thirty-eight or 50.7 per cent are males.

TEACHERS' SALARIES - Our teachers should receive better salaries. Only three counties in the State pay as low wages to the teachers as Pocahontas. The teacher is expected to include in his mental equipment the elements of all knowledge and the salary received in our county is barely sufficient to justify respectable subsistence, much less afford the means of attending school. Who will prepare himself for the profession of teaching when he knows that he will only be employed for a limited time at a salary of \$40.00 per month? We cannot expect our young men and women to enter the State normal schools, State University, or any of the high schools and after years of preparation to come home to take charge of schools at the present salary. If the boards of

...will pay better wages we will have better schools. Our present plan of fixing the teachers' salaries is not a good one. I would like to see the teacher paid according to his merits. In this way the teacher would be encouraged to remain in the profession and improve his methods and do better work. By the present plan of paying teachers our experienced and qualified teachers are driven from the field.

SCHOOL APPARATUS - It should be remembered that money expended by the boards of education for the payment of teachers' wages will not alone make our schools what they should be. Our school rooms should be supplied with charts, maps, globes, etc. The state legislature should enact a law providing for the selection and purchase of school charts, etc. A law of this kind would result in a very decided advantage to the free schools as well as to save money to the tax-payers. In many cases high priced as well as unsuitable apparatus is being put in the schools, when apparatus better adapted to the needs of the schools should be secured at wholesale prices.

ENROLLMENT - Over 75 per cent of the enumeration of the children of school age were enrolled in our public schools the last year.

IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE - The irregular attendance of pupils is one of the greatest drawbacks upon our schools. It is not only impossible for the teacher to do good work when not more than two-thirds of the students enrolled attend school regularly, but it is an injustice to the tax-payers of our county. It is an established fact that a judicious compulsory law should be enacted.

ed by our Legislature. I hope that the patrons will take more interest in this, and that we will find a larger number of students in school next year. Our schools need the cordial support of the people at large.

EXAMINATIONS - we aim to give rigid examinations.

Competent teaching is certainly essential to successful school work. The law regulating the examination of teachers has failed to give entire satisfaction.

THE INSTITUTE - Our Institute held at Marlinton Aug. 20, 1894, conducted by Profs. S. B. Brown, of Morgantown, and James L. Mucker, of Lewisburg, was one of great interest, and was attended by a larger number of teachers than any other institute ever held in the county. The teachers took an active part in the work. Profs. Brown and Mucker were thoroughly qualified and are earnest workers in the cause of education. Our teachers will give them a hearty welcome to the Focshontas Institute at any time in the future.

CONCLUSION - In conclusion I desire to say that the educational outlook for the coming year is full of promise. Prof. P. B. Fitzwater, of Virginia, is at this time (July 1895) conducting a teachers' summer normal at Marlinton. This school offers to the teachers of Focshontas a favorable opportunity to equip themselves for the coming year's work. Special attention is given in this school to science and art of teaching. The teachers of Focshontas have never had an opportunity of attending a normal school until this year.

Thanking you for the kindness and respect you have shown me in the past and soliciting your aid for the future, I am

ROCKHILLS COUNTY, 1896

David L. Durbin, County Superintendent.

| Districts | No. schools | No. white enrolled | No. colored enrolled | No. white & colored enrolled |
|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Gray | 35 | 715 | 42 | 757 |
| Greenbank | 23 | 609 | -- | 609 |
| Hunterville | 13 | 383 | 11 | 394 |
| Levels | 13 | 308 | 76 | 384 |
| Totals | 77 | 2277 | 69 | 2346 |

| | No. " enrolled | No. " enrolled | No. " " " enrolled |
|-------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Gray | 611 | 34 | 645 |
| Greenbank | 612 | -- | 612 |
| Hunterville | 613 | -- | 613 |
| Levels | 448 | 24 | 472 |
| Totals | 2683 | 58 | 2741 |

| | val. all taxable property | rate of levy building-fund teachers-fund | val. all taxable property | rate of levy building-fund teachers-fund |
|-------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|
| Gray | \$684,481.65 | 5 - 34 | \$681.61 | 2,143.62 |
| Greenbank | 643,257.01 | 5 - 34 | 734.54 | 2,197.41 |
| Hunterville | 383,363.65 | 5 - 33 | 178.64 | 1,433.00 |
| Levels | 304,100.00 | 7 - 25 | 2,374.00 | 1,547.21 |
| Totals | \$1,982,116.60 | -- | 1,326.73 | 7,218.24 |

I have the honor, herewith, to submit to you my third Annual Report of the condition of the free schools of Pocahontas county for the year beginning July 1, 1895, and ending June 30, 1896. I have taken great pains and care to make this report correct. It is very difficult to obtain correct reports from the district secretaries. I believe that the County Superintendent should be required by law to be present when the sheriff makes his settlement with the secretaries, and that the settlement should be made at the county court house on a date fixed by law. This would certainly save a great deal of time and trouble.

The school year just closed has been in almost all respects a very prosperous one.

TEACHERS - Thirty-three male and forty-one female teachers were employed in our public schools during the past year.

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT - The whole number of pupils enrolled in our public schools during the past year was one thousand nine hundred and forty-one, which is an increase of four per cent over the preceding year.

ATTENDANCE - Of the pupils enrolled, there was an average of one thousand three hundred and fourteen in daily attendance which is an increase of nearly four per cent over the preceding year. But the attendance was not what it should have been. A pupil who enrolls in school and is present but one or two days in every week gains but little knowledge and is at the same time a source of continual annoyance to the teacher and the school. The teacher cannot properly grade the school when more than three-fourths of

the pupils enrolled attend school regularly. The patrons are chiefly responsible for this irregular attendance. It is their indifference to the school system that makes the children take so little interest in attending school. In the absence of a law requiring the pupils to attend school it is to be hoped that the patrons will take more interest in this matter and see that their children attend. This is their duty and it is the teacher's duty to make the school system popular with the patrons by giving practical and thorough instruction to the pupils. The teacher can also help to increase the attendance by continually impressing upon the minds of the pupils that school is a matter of business and that punctuality and promptness are essential in the success of any undertaking. The teacher should also make the pupil feel that he is welcome at school. It is not enough to let the pupil know that he has a right to attend school, or that he will gain important knowledge by attending school. But the teacher should go beyond this and give the pupil such a welcome, such a hearty welcome, that it will arouse in him a determination to be present at school every day.

COST OF EDUCATION - The following table shows the cost of education per pupil, (including the teachers' salaries and current expenses only):

| Waver Dist. | Cost of Education | Enrollment | Attendance |
|-------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| Waver Dist. | \$4.25 | 5.00 | 7.70 |
| Franklin | 3.15 | 0.17 | 8.47 |
| Waver Dist. | 3.07 | 7.17 | 10.15 |
| Waver Dist. | 3.15 | 5.00 | 8.30 |

UNIFORM COURSE OF STUDY - Our schools cannot be properly graded until the pupils are supplied with the necessary text books, and attend school regularly. The teachers have followed the Graded Course of Study as near as possible in grading their schools.

We think that much good will result from the adoption of this uniform course of study.

The number of pupils enrolled in the various grades are as follows:

Primary Grades, males 543; females, 439; total, 982.

Intermediate "r. males, 402; females, 406; total, 808.

Upper Grades, males 64; females, 95; total, 159.

Teachers' Institute - The teachers' institute which was conducted by Prof. Barker, of Lewisburg, was well attended by the teachers. Prof. Barker is a good instructor and knows just how to make the work of the institute interesting and instructive. The instruction was practical, just what the teachers needed.

Control of Schools - In our country and village schools where the entire control is in the hands of a single teacher, I have the opinion that no person under the age of twenty should be allowed to teach.

Teachers' Salaries - Under our present school law, the teacher has at great expense and labor qualified himself for the profession of teaching receives no more for his work than the school board or the township board. A teacher is not paid until the school year is over and he has no money to live on until the next year. This is a very bad system and should be changed.

teacher fails or refuses to pass this annual examination his certificate should be revoked. When the teacher is no longer a student, he loses his power as a teacher. That teacher who is not making a study of his profession, and is not trying to prepare himself for the work of teaching would better find employment in some other calling. We must study our business if we wish to succeed. I believe that an annual examination of the course of professional study would do much toward increasing the efficiency of the public schools. The minimum salary paid teachers holding county professional certificates should be \$35 per month, and those holding state certificates should receive \$40. per month.

Examinations' Regulations - I favor uniform examinations and think the questions for county examinations should be prepared by the State Superintendent or a State Board.

School Supervision - One of the weakest points in our school system is along the line of school supervision. The country and village schools practically have no supervision. It is simply impossible for the County Superintendent, under the present law, to give much time and attention to this work. We agree as to the necessity and value of efficient supervision and we think it time for the State Legislature to take some action upon this matter. We hope that the next session of the Legislature will provide for the payment of such salaries to the County Superintendent as will enable him to devote his entire time to this work, and that they be required to devote their entire time to the work of supervision while the schools are in session.

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Conclusion - In conclusion permit me to say that we need more harmonious co-operation between home and school. I am pained when I think of the want of sympathy between teacher and parents. May the time soon come when entire agreement and true sympathy shall prevail and when the education of the children shall receive careful and studious attention both at home and at school.

The school year of 1905-6 has closed. No doubt mistakes have been made, but with a better acquaintance of the schools, and with the help of an excellent class of teachers, I am now looking forward to a prosperous and successful new school year.

My sincere thanks are due to the Board of Education, teachers, and citizens of Lincoln County, for their uniform kindness shown me during the year past. I am also thankful to you for the responses to the kind you have answered all my inquiries.

Respect of the Superintendent of Free Schools of
West Virginia. 1905-6
Virgil A. Lewis, State Supt. Free
Schools.

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Source: Mrs. Della Yeager
1926 Blue Book -- Andrew Price
Price's History Pecos/Montezuma County
Hardesty's Encyclopedia
County History by: Miss Ethel Harper
" Zell Roage
" Oleta Gay
R. W. Brown



SCHOOLS

Chapter 9 - Section 1

From the earliest period, education, of the higher and lower grades, attracted the attention of the early settlers. The first teachers taught in the homes of the pioneer farmers who were able and willing to pay them for their services. They received free board and would stay with one family for a week and then move on to the next.

Some of the pioneer families had a teacher in the home for a longer period. These teachers were sometimes from east of the mountains in what is now Virginia and had been educated in the schools there. These private teachers would be paid sometimes by two or three of the pioneers to furnish instructions for all of their children. They not only taught the three "R's" but in some cases instructed the pupils in Latin, Algebra and other subjects of higher learning. They sometimes taught for as long as three or four months. Mrs. Della Yeager tells me that before the Civil War, there were five members of one family from east of the mountains in Virginia who taught in the private families in the Levelton District. These were four Misses Moore and their brother. This family of Moores was not related to any of the Moores in Rockhonda County.

Lorenzo Laugh was the grandson of James Laugh, the Revolutionary War soldier. His home was not far from the plantation of Jacob Warwick at Cloverlick. The Laugh farm was a long narrow strip of bottom land on the Abrier River. It was about two miles long and an eighth of a mile wide.

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Lorenzo Laugh had a remarkable career. Starting his ministerial life in Virginia, he literally preached his way across the continent to the shores of the Pacific. He was a Circuit Rider from away back. He wrote a book of his life that was so full of moral precepts and instructions that it became a church publication and went into many editions. He was licensed to preach in 1832.

The friendship of the Warwick family had its effect on the life of Lorenzo Laugh. In the book of his life he said, "There was one man in our neighborhood who was called rich, having, I think, over a hundred slaves, and I wish to mention him, as he and his family were real friends to me - Father Jacob Warwick.. His daughter Betsey used to come to our house and give me lessons, and with her I learned to read and write before I ever went a day to school."

This was Elizabeth Warwick who married Col. Woods, of Albemarle. Jacob Warwick was one of the pioneers who was able to hire a teacher to instruct his children in the home.

There is mention made in Price's History of a man named Charles See who taught in the home of Col. Paul McKeel. It was in this home that Benjamin Arbogast, Junior, came under the influence of Charles See, and there was kindled in his mind the irresistible desire for a college education. He learned the rudiments of Latin and Algebra from Mr. See, went a session or two at Academy and then away to Dickinson College in Pennsylvania and was graduated among

the best in his class. In the meantime, he had professed piety, entered the ministry, and become a noted pulpit orator and one of the most distinguished teachers of the high schools under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

The schools of a century ago were what were called "subscription", "select", or sometimes "pay" schools, and a line of these were established throughout the county. These provided everyone with an opportunity to learn to read and write. These schools were usually taught for a few months in the year by one of the pioneers who, in his youth, had enjoyed superior educational advantages. The text books used were Milworth's Speller and some work - frequently the Bible as a reader.

Prior to the Civil War there were but few school houses. The schools were generally held in some old building that was abandoned, which would be clinked and daubed with mud, and in pioneer days the old open fire place was used. The windows were frequently made of greased paper, and the benches were made of split logs with pins bored in for legs.

The students, patrons and teachers maintained the schools and the tuition was paid by patrons on a per capita basis.

It is true that the early schools were private in nature, and they were paid for by a group of families who were willing to pay the tuition and were interested in school activities. The early settlers were anxious that their

children learn to read, write, cipher and read the Bible. In all the old schools, the first thing in the routine of work was to read a chapter in the Bible and recite the Lords Prayer in unison. This was a part of the days program.

The communities from an educational standpoint progressed very much and took great interest in the school work which was very limited. But the work of shifting the schools from house to house and from one old log building to another became monotonous and the citizens became anxious to have permanent school buildings.

The first schools were not silent schools as we now have. In 1846 at the request of Isaac Moore, a meeting was held to consider reforms in the schools. So much was he interested in educational affairs, that at this meeting a Board of Education was organized to supervise the schools of Ldray District, and have them taught by such teachers as were examined and approved by the Board. He led a spirited controversy in the effort to have silent schools. His point was carried and silent schools became the rule.

Isaac Moore was born March 4, 1800 at the Bridger Place about four or five miles east of Ldray. He was very fond of books and was anxious to become a good scholar. He diligently improved his opportunities and with such assistance as he received from an old field school teacher, he mastered what was called the three "R's" - reading, writing and arithmetic. Fortunately for him, Colonel John Baxter, a near neighbor, had

what is believed to have been the largest and best collection of books in the county, probably as many as one hundred volumes -- history, travel, fiction and poetry. He had the use of these books at will, and thus his taste for reading was in a measure gratified until he could procure ample reading elsewhere.

For a good many winters young Moore taught school in a house near the present residence of Mrs. George Baxter. It was of a pioneer style, built of unhewn logs, clincked and daubed, roofed with boards kept in place by press poles, one end of the room taken up by the chimney of sticks and clay. A window extended the entire length of one side with greased paper a substitute for glass.

The Barlows, Moores, Baxters, Duncans, Smiths and Buffields were the chief patrons of the school during the years of his service. To promote order and discipline, the young teacher cut a haw switch of portentous length and placed it in view of the whole school, - for a time this proved very effective. One day, however, just as play time was over and the scholars were gathering in, the teacher was arranging a back log, and while in a stooping position, one of the scholars took down the switch and dealt the teacher a stinging blow across the shoulders and side of the head. He slipped out of the door and ran at the top of his speed through the woods with the teacher in hot pursuit. In about a half-mile the fugitive was overtaken, and the first impulse was to punish him by tearing out the switch.

The recalcitrant scholar seemed so sorry and plead so pitifully that the teacher relented and agreed to let him off that time. He became a good boy and gave no more trouble.

Miss May Sprinkle taught in the home of Col. McKeel the first year of the Civil War. She was betrothed to John Burgess the first man from the Hillsboro Community to be killed by the Northern soldiers in their initial raid through the county.

The first school in the Levelton District, according to Hardesty's Encyclopedia, was taught by a man by the name of Thomas Green, in the year 1798, in a rude cabin which stood one and one-half miles north of Hillsboro, on the lands now owned by W. H. McKeel. This pioneer temple of learning was a round pole structure with a clapboard roof, held in place by weight poles; the floor was of mother earth. Instead of windows a log was chopped from one side, and over the opening was pasted greased paper as a substitute for glass.

M. A. Dunlap of Ponca City, Oklahoma, has contributed some recollections of early schools from his remarkable memory of conversations heard in the home of his uncle, the Rev. M. J. Dunlap.

He thinks the first teacher ever in the Hillsboro Community was a man by the name of Leenan.

This teacher was considered a very learned man from the fact that he could read and write and had figured in the arithmetic as far as the rule of three. The next teacher was Rev. John S. Blain, a Presbyterian minister, a teacher and a physician. He is described as a large, lean, strong man, possessed of a kindly face and gentle heart. The description is somewhat contradictory as he is said to have whipped thirteen boys the second day of school, twenty-one the third day, and five and six each day for about a week. After that no further trouble was experienced, but the school had an unsavory reputation that had to be disciplined, and he used the means within his power. The wife of Dr. Blain was a Miss McRoberts, sister of Archibald McRoberts, whose father was a Randolph of Roanoke and a descendant of Locahontas. He made his home with his sister and became the next teacher. He was well educated and a man of great talents that he used only under compulsion. The next teacher was Rev. Joseph Brown whose gentle, Christian character greatly endeared him to the people; and it was through his influence that the brick Academy was now built and he became the first teacher there.

The first "subscription" school in Huntersville District was "kept" in a deserted log cabin, which stood on the banks of Lapps Creek not far from where Huntersville, the County seat was afterwards located. It was a five sided structure

one side of which was taken up by a huge fireplace. The seats were made by splitting small logs in half and inseting pins for legs in the oval side. Who the first teacher was is not known, and never will be, for there is no record, and the oldest person now living cannot remember.

In the year of 1839, Rev. J. M. Harris, a young minister in broken health, was advised to come to the mountains for relief from bronchial troubles. He was a native of Pennsylvania and a very brilliant scholar. He came to Huntersville and in a few weeks opened a school, and also gathered a Sabbath School. His school was in a building near where the Methodist church now stands, and was in after years used by Dr. Matt Wallace as a physician's office. He only taught a year or two, and when his health improved, he went to Hampshire County, where he married.

The first school in Ldray District to be held in a school house was on the land which later belonged to Robert Gay near Ldray. The house was a round log structure very much like all the early school houses. It had a clapboard roof held in place by press poles. The fireplace took up most of one end of the house. This was made of rough stone and the chimney was made of slats and mud. For light creased paper was pasted over the cracks. Seats were made of split logs, holes bored and pins put in for legs.

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The term of the school was three months and the teacher's salary was one dollar per month for each pupil. There were no lead pencils but some of the pupils had slates. Quill pens were used.

The teacher of this school was Mary Warwick. It is said that several of the parents accompanied their children to school and learned to read with them.

In Greenbank District, prior to the Civil War, there were but few schools. These were private schools, paid for by the farmers who could afford to hire a teacher to instruct their children. In 1844 a permanent school house was erected in the Greenbank Community.

Information: 1926 Blue Book -- Andrew Price
Mrs. Nellie Yeager
Hist. of Po. Co. by Edna Harper
Bell Pounce
Oleta Jay
M. W. Brown
Minnie Wallace
Price's History of Pocahontas Co.
Hardesty's Encyclopedia.
J. W. School

AN OLD TIME SCHOOL

In the early fifties John Moore and family moved to Pocahontas county and lived near Millpoint. They were Irish people, pure breed. The family consisted of father, mother, five daughters and one son, Michael - "Mike" as he was called by all who knew him. He was an exceptionally bright boy, took to book learning easily, and, from information now in hand, he was given school opportunities by Col. Paul McNeel and Sampson Mathews, of Millpoint.

In the year 1863 the Moore family moved to Hillsboro and lived in the Peyatt house for a year or more, and then moved to the old log house south of town, known in late years as the Shearer property. Here the old people died thirty-five years ago (1877).

Mike Moore in addition to educating himself, taught his sisters and prepared them to teach school. This was a great help to them and the family.

The writer remembers Mike Moore as one of the best teachers of his day. His first school, as I remember, was at Hillsboro in the basement of the old Methodist Church. He was a very strict disciplinarian, but kind to his scholars. He had no pets and showed no favoritism, but treated all alike. He was the best reader I ever heard.

In 1862 or '63 Mr. Moore went to Virginia and there married Miss Kate Morris, of Danville. M. W. H.

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